NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

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Title: Rebellion in Brunei - December 1962

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Department of Defence

Attachment **A** to:
AHS 96/1371
17 December 1996

STATEMENT OF REASONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 40 OF THE ARCHIVES ACT 1983

Series:	A1945/39
Item:	248-5-6
Title:	Rebellion in Brunei - December 1962.
Decision:	Access is denied in part to folio **12**. Access is denied in total to folio **109.**
Determination Adviser:	Mr D.N. Callaghan, Chief Executive Officer Archives and Historical Studies, Legal Services Branch, Department of Defence, Canberra.

Relevant Section(s) of the Act:
s33(1)(a): '...a Commonwealth record is an exempt record if it contains information or matter...the disclosure of which under this Act could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the defence, security or international relations.

Actual Exemption(s) claimed:
s33(1)(a): insofar as it relates to matter, security and international relations of the Commonwealth, only.

Findings on Material Questions of Fact and Reasons for the Decision:
The folio identified reveals a liaison between the Australian government and an intelligence agency of foreign origin. The foreign government concerned has asked that Australia not reveal this liaison to the public. Releasing the information against the wishes of the foreign government could reasonably be expected to cause damage to Australia's international relations.
Any refusal by a foreign government to pass on further intelligence information as a result of a break in international relations could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the security of the Commonwealth.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

Department of Defence

Attachment **B** to:
AHS 96/1371
17 December 1996

STATEMENT OF REASONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 40 OF THE ARCHIVES ACT 1983

Series:	A1945/39
Item:	248-5-6
Title:	Rebellion in Brunei - December 1962.
Decision:	Access is denied in total to folios **36, 37, 39, 40, 62, 63, 90, 91, 95-97, 103-106, 118, 119, 131, 181, 182a, 182, 233.**
Determination Adviser:	Mr D.N. Callaghan, Chief Executive Officer Archives and Historical Studies, Legal Services Branch, Department of Defence, Canberra.

Relevant Section(s) of the Act:
s33(1)(b): '...a Commonwealth record is an exempt record if it contains information or matter.....communicated in confidence by or on behalf of a foreign government, an authority of a foreign government or international organisation to the Government of the Commonwealth or to an authority of the Commonwealth or to a person receiving the communication on behalf of the Commonwealth, being information or matter the disclosure of which under this Act would constitute a breach of that confidence'.

Actual Exemption(s) claimed:
s33(1)(b): insofar as it relates to matter communicated in confidence by an authority of a foreign government to a person receiving the communication on behalf of an authority of the Commonwealth, only.

Findings on material questions of fact and the reasons for the decision:
The folios identified cover information provided in confidence by a foreign government to the Australian Government. The foreign government has advised that it does not want this material released to the public and to release this material would be a breach of that confidence. Releasing the material against the wishes of a foreign government could reasonably be expected to cause damage to Australia's international relations.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 40 OF THE ARCHIVES ACT 1983

CRS: A1945/39 **ITEM:** 248/5/6

TITLE: Rebellion in Brunei - December 1962

DECISION: The folios listed below are ~~wholly~~/partially exempt under sub-sections 33(1)(a) and (b) of the Archives Act 1983

72

FACTS ON WHICH THIS DECISION IS BASED:

The exempted folios contain :

- information provided in confidence by a foreign government, the disclosure of which would constitute a breach of that confidence.
- the identity of an overseas intelligence agency/agent. The country concerned has requested that the Australian Government not release this identity in this context.
- intelligence/information the release of which could cause damage to : the security of the Commonwealth/international relations

REASONS FOR THE DECISION:

Section 33(1)(a) of the Archives Act 1983 states that a record is exempt if it contains information or matter the disclosure of which under this Act could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the security, defence or international relations of the Commonwealth.

The foreign government has asked that the information receive continuing protection. Release could reasonably be expected to cause damage to Australia's international relations.

Section 33(1)(b) of the Archives Act states that a record is exempt if it contains information or matter communicated in confidence by or on behalf of a foreign government, an authority of a foreign government or an international organisation to the Government of the Commonwealth, to an authority of the Commonwealth or to a person receiving the communication on behalf of the Commonwealth or of an authority of the Commonwealth, being information or matter the disclosure of which under this Act would constitute a breach of that confidence.

International relations are dependent upon the adequate flow of information between one country and another. If disclosure would lessen the confidence of another country in the Government of Australia, that is sufficient ground for a finding that disclosure could reasonably be expected to damage international relations.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

Form No. 81
Introduced May, 1966

248 / 5 / 6

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

FILE CLOSED

Subsequent correspondence has been placed on
File No:

248	5	7.

6216/66

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE **SECRET**

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: REPORT ON OPERATIONS IN BORNEO - DEC. 1962 - JAN. 1963

1. Air Marshal Sir Frederick Scherger, KBE, CB, DSO, AFC, Chairman, CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE.

2. Air Marshal Sir Valston Hancock, KBE, CB, DFC, CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF.

3. Vice Admiral W.H. Harrington, CB, CBE, DSO, CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF.

4. Lieutenant-General J.G.N. Wilton, CB, CBE, DSO, CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF.

Circulated herewith for information is a copy of CINCFE 77/63 (509/OPS/10) of 22nd April, 1963, received from the Australian Defence Representative, Singapore, which is the CINCFE's report on operations in Borneo during the above period. It would be appreciated if the report could be returned to this office on completion of circulation.

Secretary
21/5/1963.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

1582.

248 56

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

~~701~~ 259

INWARD CABLEGRAM

RB

I.13772

FROM:

DATED: 24TH MAY, 1963
1806

REC'D: 24TH MAY, 1963
2006

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
MANILA.

365. UNCLASSIFIED.

SUKARNO VISIT.

FOLLOWING ARE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS SUKARNO/MACAPAGAL JOINT STATEMENT.

BEGINS:

AFTER REVIEWING DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THEIR LAST MEETING IN MANILA LAST YEAR, PARTICULARLY THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE REGION OF SOUTH EAST ASIA, THE TWO PRESIDENTS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES AND THE INCREASING CONTACTS BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

THEY REITERATED THEIR DETERMINATION TO MOVE TOWARDS THE OBJECTIVES OF FORGING THE CLOSEST TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES.

BOTH PRESIDENTS AGREED TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PREPARATIONS FOR A MEETING OF THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES AND MALAYA AND EXPRESSED COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON THE GOAL OF UNDERSTANDING AND HARMONY BETWEEN MALAY PEOPLES AS THE GENUINE FOUNDATION FOR THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF THEIR REGION.

PRESIDENT SUKARNO INFORMED PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL THAT HE WAS READY TO MEET WITH THE LATTER AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYA, TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN, IN ORDER TO THRESH OUT PROBLEMS EXISTING BETWEEN THE THREE COUNTRIES AND THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SUBANDRIO WAS ALSO READY TO MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE PHILIPPINES AND MALAYA TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE MEETING OF THE MALAY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT.

ENDS.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
A/MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

24TH MAY, 1963

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

248 5 6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

~~200~~ 258

INWARD CABLEGRAM

RB

I.13770

FROM:

Dated: 24th May, 1963
1806

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

Rec'd: 24th May, 1963
2006

362. UNCLASSIFIED.

Congress Session adjourned early hours this morning on expiry constitutional term. Senate had failed to pass budget, Public Works Bill or Land Reform Legislation. Congress has reportedly not authorised automatic reappropriation of funds and most papers have expressed view that President would be obliged to call Special Session.

Details and comment by bag.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
A/MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
A/MIN. & DEPT TRADE (C)
TREASURER & TREASURY
P.M.'s.

24th May, 1963

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

JPH.

I.32712.

Dated. 29th December 1962.
1421.
Rec'd. 29th December 1962.
1700.

FROM:

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

341. SECRET.

Brunei.

Reference our 335, paragraph 2.

Papers forwarded as follows.

Complicity. With our memo 2549 in 26th December bag.

Causes. By C - in - C signal J.I.C.(PE) 195 for J.I.C. (Aust) on 27th December.

Relevant document J.I.C.(FE) (62)21262 of 27th December follows in 2nd January bag.

(Memo 2549 could read 2449)

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE.
P.M.'s

29th December 1962.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

CONFIDENTIAL

DEFENCE / / FOL

198 255

RAAF HERCULES FOR BORNEO AIRLIFT.

The Minister

For your information, it was ascertained to-day from the Air Staff that the RAAF C.130 aircraft in Singapore which had been made available to the British to assist in the airlift to Borneo was released prior to Christmas and returned to Australia about 21st December. The Air Staff received a signal from FAREAF expressing appreciation of the use of the Hercules and admiration of its capabilities. FAREAF stated that it was used to transport heavy equipment which could not be carried in the other types of transport aircraft available to them.

Secretary
28/12/1962.

A/S (OP) Ns
Ch COS
File

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD SAVINGRAM 214

Dated: 28th December, 1962

Rec'd: 3rd January, 1963.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

Saving No. 38 RESTRICTED

Repeated Singapore

Political Developments in Malaya
(14th-27th December, 1962)

The aftermath of the Brunei revolt, in particular the deterioration in Malayan-Indonesian relations, has been the main topic of political interest in the period. The Inter-Governmental Committee on Malaysia concluded its final meeting on 19th December. The rail strike commenced on 22nd December and threatens to be Malaya's most serious labour dispute for some years.

THE BRUNEI REVOLT: RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

2. The deterioration in relations between Malaya and Indonesia over the attitude of the Indonesian Government and Indonesian political leaders to the Brunei revolt has been reported elsewhere.

3. No official translation of the Tunku's address to the UMNO Youth Convention on 21st December is available but our own rough translation indicates that, far from exaggerating, the Press version (our telegram No. 465) may have tended to play down the Tunku's attack on Indonesia. In a further short address to the Convention the Tunku has said that the burning of his effigy in Djakarta was an expression of opposition against him for upholding parliamentary democracy. The Deputy Prime Minister, Tun Razak, has also spoken to the Youth Convention on the sinister role of the P.K.I. in souring relations between Malaya and Indonesia.

4. Senior Alliance officials and the Central Executive of UMNO have expressed full support for Cabinet's decision to make a formal protest to Indonesia over Subandrio's "improper and uncalled for" attack on the Tunku.

5. The Malayan Press has given an extensive coverage to the revolt and to its effect on Malayan relations with Indonesia and the Philippines. Editorials hostile to Indonesia have appeared almost daily in the English Language Press (especially the "Straits Times"). However, while Malay, Chinese and Tamil papers have endorsed the Government's stand their editorial tone appears to be milder. Reports from Manila on Azahari's activities in the Philippines and his relationship with Osmena have been prominently featured but there has been no editorial criticism of the Philippines.

6. In announcing his request for a postponement of the A.S.A. Foreign Ministers' Meeting "until there is a better atmosphere" the Tunku expressed confidence that A.S.A. would carry on to the advantage of all three member countries, but said a meeting in Manila might be hampered by "a feeling of awkwardness..... It is impossible for me to go while Azahari is still there". The Tunku reiterated his belief that the Philippines Government was not involved in the Brunei revolt. However, he commented at length on Osmena's

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I. 214.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD SAVINGRAM

alleged role in the affair and claimed that Azahari had offered (probably through Osmena) to h[illegible] in exchange for Filipino support in the revolt. The Tunku claimed also that the British and United States Ambassadors in Manila had warned Pelaez that the North Borneo claim could destroy A.S.A. and he said a similar warning had been given to Pelaez in New York by Averell Harriman. (Pelaez has denied both claims.)

7. It has been announced that the Thai Foreign Minister will visit Kuala Lumpur and possibly Manila early in the New Year to help relieve the "uneasiness in relations" between Malaya and the Philippines and "help maintain the existence of A.S.A."

8. Both the "Malayan Times" and the "Malay Mail" have published reports from "authoritative sources" that the Sultan of Brunei will visit Kuala Lumpur in the near future. The "Malayan Times" has expressed the view that the visit may well be a prelude to Brunei's early accession to Malaysia.

9. The two important North Borneo political leaders on the Inter-Governmental Committee on Malaysia, Donald Stephens and Datu Mustapha bin Datu Harun, both said in Kuala Lumpur that the Brunei revolt received no support from the people in North Borneo. They expressed their anger at Azahari, their regret for Indonesia's attitude in the matter, and their suspicion of Azahari's presence in Manila. Both claimed a referendum in North Borneo would produce at least a 90% vote for Malaysia.

MALAYSIA

10. The communique issued on 20th December after the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Committee in Kuala Lumpur stated that the Committee had agreed to the general terms of the draft report based on the recommendations of the five specialist sub-committees. It was thought unnecessary, therefore, for the Committee to have further plenary sessions, and sections of the report requiring further drafting would be delegated to a small ad hoc Committee of specialists. The communique noted that the final report was expected to be approved and laid before the North Borneo and Sarawak Legislatures early in the new year. Donald Stephens is quoted in the Press as saying that the report of the Committee will be made public in mid-January and the signing of the Malaysia agreement would take place in London in March.

11. According to comments by delegates on the Committee, full agreement was reached on the constitutional and fiscal arrangements and on the safeguards necessary for the accession of North Borneo and Sarawak. Agreement was also reached between Sarawak and North Borneo on the allocation of the 40 seats in the Federal Parliament, with Sarawak to have 24 and North Borneo 16. The Malayan Assistant Attorney-General has told the special arrangements for the Borneo territories assure a large measure of autonomy in legal matters for North Borneo and Sarawak. He indicated the relation between the Federal and State Governments on legal matters will be similar to that between the Commonwealth and State Governments in Australia.

12. Alliance leaders in Malaya have expressed pleasure at the sweeping victory of the Sabah Alliance in local Government elections held in North Borneo.

LABOUR

13. As reported by memorandum, the rail strike commenced on 22nd December. Declarations of support from major labour organizations in Malaya - including threats of sympathy strike action - indicate a possibility of escalation into a widespread industrial dispute of some magnitude.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

I. 214.

INWARD SAVINGRAM

14. The Annual Delegates Meeting of the Malaya Trades Union Congress was held on 14th-16th December. Discussion on the controversial resolutions put forward by the Mining Workers Union (see our previous Political Savingram) was postponed to a later meeting to be arranged.

POLITICAL PARTIES

15. "Utusan Melayu", the most influential Jawi Malay paper, has attacked the claim of the former Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Inche Aziz bin Ishak, that the recent election of a new Speaker for the Selangor Legislative Assembly indicated a rift in the Alliance. The paper said that if there is a rift, it is in UMNO itself (and not between the M.C.A. and UMNO), and it may well be caused by the "inefficiency" of Selangor UMNO's leadership (i.e., Aziz himself) which should be reviewed.

16. Addressing a Malaya Chinese Association Youth Training course, the President of the Association, Mr. Tan Siew Sin, attacked Chinese chauvinism and recommended the Sino-Indian border dispute as a good topic for discussion on the course "in order that we can reaffirm our faith in democracy".

17. A spokesman of the Party Negara has denied statements attributed to the United Democratic Party that the two Parties had arranged to merge.

18. A National Vice-President of the Party Negara, Gharieb Raof, has been arrested and will be tried for sedition following a speech alleged to be "highly communal" in nature.

19. The P.M.I.P. Government in Kelantan has banned on moral grounds Western style dancing in public places. A Government spokesman has claimed that consideration will be given also to a ban on the wearing of shorts by school girls in games and physical education. Among 32 resolutions scheduled for discussion at the Annual Congress of the Party commencing next week are those calling for bans on the import and production of alchohol and on film shows on Thursday evenings, separate classrooms for boys and girls in co-educational schools, legislation compelling Federal citizens to learn Malay , and the recall of Dato Ong Yoke Lin (Malaya's Ambassador to Washington and Permanent Representative at the United Nations) and his replacement by a Malay.

20. A sharp attack on Dr. Lim Chong Eu (leader of the U.D.P.) by the Socialist Front Mayor of Penang has provided further evidence of the rivalry of the two parties.

INTERNAL SECURITY

21. Socialist Front leaders have continued to protest vigorously against the recent arrest of 50 people in the Federation, including many Socialist Front members and Trade Unionists.

22. The nineteen Singapore students arrested in the Johore Straits in September have been acquitted of contravening the Federation Government's travel ban. It is reported that the Public Prosecutor of Johore will appeal against the decision.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

23. As reported by memorandum the Prime Minister of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, made a short official visit to Malaya ending on 22nd December. It has been announced that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Tunku have accepted invitations to visit Cambodia.

24. The Prime Minister of Ceylon, Mrs. Bandaranaike, made a short unofficial visit to Kuala Lumpur on 27th-28th December on her way to Peking in connection with the Neutrals' plan to end the Sino-Indian dispute.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

INWARD SAVINGRAM

25. The "Save Democracy" Fund now stands at over $500,000. Recent subscriptions follow the same pattern as that previously reported. Attacks on the Government's policy by Opposition and Independent Chinese members have continued intermittently.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.

3rd January, 1963.

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION, SINGAPORE.
INWARD SAVINGRAM
~~CABLEGRAM~~

CONFIDENTIAL

SAVINGRAM.

I. 213

From: CONFIDENTIAL.

File No: 310/1

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

Dated: 28th December, 1962.

Rec'd: 3rd January, 1963.

Savingram No. 5 to CANBERRA.

BRUNEI - SINGAPORE REACTION

The Barisan Socialis public rally in support of the Brunei revolt was held on 23rd December. The attendance was estimated at 3 to 4 thousand which is no more than the usual "hard-core" support.

2. No newspapers carried the story of the rally but the text of the speech by Lim Chin Siong has now been circulated by the Barisan Socialis. Lim Chin Siong describes therevolt as a fight against colonialism and Malaysia. He says that support for the revolt does not mean that the Barisan Socialis no longer stands for peaceful constitutional struggle. In Brunei the responsibility for resort to violence rested with the Colonial power.

3. In his statement, Lim Chin Siong, highlights the support of President Soekarno and Indonesia. "The stand of Indonesia deserves our wholehearted praise". He warns against British and PAP propaganda that the revolt was engineered by Indonesia and that Indonesia is anti-Chinese. He says that the Chinese should realise that this is an anti-colonial movement and now allow themselves to be in the position of supporting the colonial master.

4. In a reference to internal security action Lim refers to the crushing of "progressive forces in Malaya, Sarawak and possibly even in Singapore".

5. The marked emphasis on Indonesia is of course a difficult and unpopular stand to take in Singapore and further isolates the Barisan Socialis.

6. It also offers ground for speculation on how far the Barisan Socialis leaders are involved with the P.K.I.

GAJ/ao

Distribution: Commissioner
W. K. Flanagan
Colonel Hay
F. S. Fry.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE

3rd January, 1963.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION OF DIVISION

CONFIDENTIAL

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SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

PGL.293/2

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANBERRA

Despatched: 1455 hours 28th December, 1962
Received 0950 hours 29th December, 1962

ROUTINE

TELEGRAM NO. 1627 CONFIDENTIAL

British High Commissioners Wellington 917, Kuala Lumpur 1450.

Following is text of Djakarta telegram addressed to Foreign Office 806 of December 25 repeated for information Singapore, Kuala Lumpur 42, Canberra 107, Wellington M95, Manila and Saving to Washington, United Kingdom Mission New York, United Kingdom Delegation N.A.T.O., Jesselton, Kuching, Brunei.

BEGINS

My immediately preceding telegram.

BRUNEI

Dr. Leimena said that he would have to speak to Dr. Subandrio before taking matters further. I replied there was no time for that. From all accounts Subandrio would be ill for another week (he apparently has bronchial pneumonia) and meanwhile the agitation in this country had to be stopped. It really was no use talking to me after almost four years in Indonesia about "the political parties" here. As for the press, they had grossly distorted the whole affair. For instance it had been reported that 700 students had demonstrated at my house. In fact the outside figure was 70; and their leaders did not even know where Brunei was. And again

/the Press

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ANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

249

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received

the Press had claimed that 400,000 people had attended mass rally here on December 23. In fact only some 3,000 had been present. Not content with these exaggerations, the press had been unwilling to publish any of the facts with which the Embassy had provided them.

2. If the President I went on had not declared his sympathy for the rebels against their lawful Government there would have been no agitation. The whole thing was obviously artificial and could be stopped by a word from the President. If Indonesia sincerely wanted good relations with Britain it would be as well for that word to be said.

3. Dr. Leimena did not attempt to argue that point. I urged him to put my representations at once before the President but could obtain no assurance that this would be done. He would promise no more than to consult Chief Minister Djuanda as soon as possible. After agreeing on the publicity to be given to the interview (my telegram 803 para 3) we parted on our usual very friendly terms.

4. Copies of documents mentioned in this series of telegrams follow by bag. Please see my immediately following telegram.

ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

CYPHER
POL.233/2

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANBERRA

Despatched: 1430 hours 28th December, 1962
Received 0900 hours 29th December, 1962

TELEGRAM NO. 1626 CONFIDENTIAL

British High Commissioners Wellington 916, Kuala Lumpur 1449.

Following text Djakarta telegram to Foreign Office 805 December 25 repeated for information Singapore, Wellington, M.94, Kuala Lumpur 41, Manila, Canberra 106, and Saving following Washington, Kuching, United Kingdom Mission New York, United Kingdom Delegation N.A.T.O., Jesselton, Brunei.

BEGINS

My immediately preceding telegram.

BRUNEI

Leimena made no response whatever either at this stage or later to my mention of assistance given by Indonesia to rebels before the revolt and I therefore did not use supplementary material with which I had been provided. He said merely that his Government had no claim on any North Borneo territory and no wish to incorporate any of them into Indonesia. Indonesia had hoped however that the three territories would form a single independent state.

2. I said that the future constitutional status of those territories was no concern of Indonesia. It was up to their peoples to decide. Indeed Subandrio had more

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CONFIDENTIAL

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TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received

than once assured me that the Indonesian Government wished Malaysia well. Was it the fact I asked that despite those assurances Indonesia was opposed to the concept of Malaysia and that this was why the revolt in Brunei was being supported here.

3. Leimena said that this was so for the reason he had given. Indonesia would prefer the three Northern Borneo territories to form a separate independent state and believed that this would inevitably come about. It has been a great pity he thought that British forces had intervened. It was that which had upset the President and political parties here.

4. I replied that all this coincided strongly with the opinion of Azahari who had tried to grab the three territories by force of arms. Indonesia had known rebellions and I could see no justification for her encouragement of revolts elsewhere above all in a small neighbouring state. In any event what the British were trying to do was precisely what Indonesia had complained so bitterly against the Dutch for not doing. We were trying to bring to independence within one successor state and with the approval of their peoples territories for which we were responsible. As for Brunei it was for her to decide her own future.

5. If Malaysia was eventually not a success I went on it would in my view almost certainly be because of

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TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received

Indonesia's hostility. But while we were responsible for protecting Borneo territories we should most certainly see to their defence against all intervention. This must be made clear and at once. Sukarno I had noticed was fond of foreign quotations and I should like to offer him another. It was "What kind of people do you think we are". I hoped that I should have an early opportunity to discuss this affair with him and indeed would no doubt have been so instructed in the first place had H.M.G. not been ready to deal with it on a friendly basis(?).

6. Please see my immediately following telegram.

ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

MINUTE PAPER

SAA(INT) 245
193

Subject INDONESIAN SUPPORT FOR SUBVERSION IN BORNEO

MEMBERS, JIC

Following signal has been made available by BDLS:

"1. We have now produced a paper, based on all available evidence, of the extent of Indonesian support and complicity in the Borneo territories.

2. Our conclusions are as follows:-

(a) A psychological warfare element of the Indonesian military intelligence service has been operating under a Lieutenant Colonel Suparman for not less than two years on tasks directed against Malaya and the Borneo territories. Its prime concern in the Borneo territories has been, and still is, the conduct of subversive activities to win the inhabitants over to sympathy with Indonesia with the view to eventual incorporation of the Borneo territories into Indonesia.

(b) About November, 1961, it is probable that Azahari reached agreement with high Indonesian leaders, including Soekarno and Subandrio, for a number of his followers to be given military training in Indonesia under army auspices. Certain steps were taken in an effort to make this training non attributable by using part Indo volunteers as trainers and not army personnel. Cadre elements were given military training near Malinau in East Kalimantan over a period of some months and returned to train additional TNKU personnel.

(c) In addition to Azahari's contacts with Indonesian officials, politicians and leaders of mass movements, he has been in touch with PKI leaders. There is no evidence however of their having given him direct support, although they now intend to exploit the situation created by his activities.

(d) Despite Indonesian involvement in the military training of the TNKU, Indonesian officials in Djakarta, including some who should have been 'in the know' were surprised by the timing of the revolt."

Joint Secretary,
Joint Intelligence Committee
27th December, 1962

FAS(B) Ok
Ch JPC Ack 4/1.
A/S DP. RS

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

244

192

KA

I.32580

DATED - 27TH DECEMBER, 1962
1815
REC'D - 28TH DECEMBER, 1962
0950

FROM:

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3486. SECRET. PRIORITY.

(TO PASS TO DJAKARTA, SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA).

REPEATED LONDON 952, U.N. NEW YORK.

OUR 3476.

INDONESIA AND BRUNEI.

AMBASSADOR JONES SAW SUKARNO NOT SUBANDRIO ON MORNING DECEMBER 26TH.

SUKARNO MADE NO SECRET OF HIS OPPOSITION TO MALAYSIA AND OF HIS BELIEF THAT THE BRUNEI REBELS HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY.

2. SUKARNO EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT JONES' STATEMENT THAT BRUNEI REBELS WERE NOT SUPPORTED IN SARAWAK OR NORTH BORNEO.

HE MAINTAINED STRONGLY THAT AZAHARI WAS REAL LEADER OF BRUNEI PEOPLE.

INDONESIA SUPPORTED AZAHARI'S MOVEMENT AS IT HAD SUPPORTED ALL OTHER GENUINE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS.

3. SUKARNO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT BRITISH INTENDED TO LEAVE BRUNEI BUT ONLY IN FAVOUR OF MALAYSIA.

HE REGARDED THIS AS A 'MADE IN BRITAIN' SOLUTION.

4. JONES MADE CLEAR THAT U.S.A. SUPPORTED THE MALAYSIA PLAN, PARTICULARLY AS A MEANS OF SETTLING THE PROBLEM SINGAPORE POSED FOR THE REGION INCLUDING INDONESIA.

SUKARNO COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS BY NO MEANS THE ONLY THING BEHIND THE MALAYSIA PLAN.

THE PLAN WAS MOTIVATED TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT BY ANTI-INDONESIAN SENTIMENT.

5. SUKARNO REFUSED TO BE DRAWN WHEN JONES ASKED WHETHER INDONESIA WOULD CEASE TO OPPOSE MALAYSIA SHOULD THE PLAN RECEIVE THE CLEAR-CUT SUPPORT OF ALL THE PEOPLES TO BE INVOLVED.

HE REVERTED TO EXTENT OF OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATED IN BRUNEI.

WHEN JONES ASKED FURTHER WHY AZAHARI HAD RESORTED TO VIOLENCE SHORTLY BEFORE BRUNEI COUNCIL WAS TO MEET ON DECEMBER 19TH, SUKARNO COUNTERED THAT COUNCIL WAS SULTAN'S PUPPET AND THAT SULTAN WAS ALREADY COMMITTED TO MALAYSIA.

..2/..

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FOR ATTENTION U.P. BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

KA

I.32580

SECRET

6. JONES ASKED WHETHER INDONESIA, AS A CHAMPION OF AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY, WAS NOT CONCERNED AT THE IMPLICATIONS OF A REGIONAL DISPUTE OVER BRUNEI AND MALAYSIA.

SUKARNO ACKNOWLEDGED POINT OF THE QUESTION BUT CLAIMED INDONESIA WAS NOT ALONE IN ITS ATTITUDE.

PHILIPPINES LEADERS AND SIHANOUK ALSO OPPOSED MALAYSIA.

7. JONES SAID THE BRUNEI REVOLT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN QUELLED AND HE FORESAW NO FURTHER DIFFICULTIES THERE UNLESS THEY AROSE AS A RESULT OF CONTINUED INDONESIAN AGITATION.

SUKARNO COMMENTED THAT INDONESIAN LEADERS HAD EXPRESSED ONLY 'SYMPATHY' FOR THE REBELS.

WHEN JONES MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF INDONESIAN 'VOLUNTEERS' GOING TO BRUNEI, SUKARNO CLAIMED THAT HE COULD DO NOTHING ABOUT SUCH SPONTANEOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF HIS PEOPLE'S SPIRIT.

HE DID NOT RESPOND TO JONES COMMENT THAT HE HAD MERELY TO LIFT A FINGER TO PUT AN END TO THE MATTER.

8. AT THE END OF THE INTERVIEW SUKARNO ASKED JONES TO TELL THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT INDONESIA SUPPORTED INDEPENDENCE FOR BRUNEI AND HOPED THE U.S.A. WOULD NOT BE PARTY TO FORCING THE TERRITORY TO JOIN MALAYSIA.

JONES REPLIED THAT BRITISH DID NOT INTEND TO FORCE ANY STATUS ON PEOPLE OF BRUNEI.

9. INGRAHAM(INDONESIAN DESK) TOLD US DECEMBER 27TH THAT STATE DEPARTMENT WAS AWAITING A FURTHER REPORT FROM JONES ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF HIS APPROACH ON SUKARNO.

WE COMMENTED THAT THE SUBJECT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN ARGUED CLOSELY WITH SUKARNO WITHOUT HOWEVER MAKING MUCH IMMEDIATE IMPRESSION ON HIM.

WE ASKED ON PERSONAL BASIS WHETHER IF STATE DEPARTMENT CONCLUDED THAT THIS WAS THE CASE, IT MIGHT CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF MAKING THE UNITED STATES POSITION PUBLIC WITH A VIEW TO POSSIBLE DAMPENING EFFECT ON INDONESIAN PROPAGANDA.

INGRAHAM DID NOT RULE OUT THIS POSSIBILITY AND SPECULATED PERSONALLY THAT RUSK MIGHT ANSWER A PRESS QUESTION.

GLAD ADVICE IF YOU WISH THIS POINT TO BE FOLLOWED UP.

10. WE GATHER THAT AMBASSADOR FRY WAS UNABLE TO SECURE APPOINTMENT WITH SUKARNO OR SUBANDRIO AND SAW LEIMENA WHO EVADED COMMENT ON FRY'S STATEMENT THAT BRITISH HAD EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT WITH BRUNEI REBELS.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

28TH DECEMBER, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

191

:GS

I.32592/4

Sent: 27th December, 1962
2150

FROM:

Rec'd: 28th December, 1962
0900

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

1032. SECRET.

Repeated Kuala Lumpur 11.

Brunei.

I called on Subandrio this morning mainly to seek his views on the Brunei situation. He had just seen the Malayan Ambassador and subsequent checking with Kamaruddin revealed that he took the same line with both of us although he said a number of things to me obviously not for Malayan ears. Subandrio sees the problem at the moment as not being so much one of what is going on, on the ground in North Borneo as one of Malayan/Indonesian relations. Indonesia has not given, he said, physical support to Azahari and the rebels although he did not deny that a certain amount of coming and going might have taken place across the border. Indonesian sympathies were perfectly clear and undisguised. They did not regard the Malayan Government as fully independent or as properly representative of the Malayan people or in complete control of Malaya itself. They regarded the concept of Malaysia as expansionism on the part of the Tunku, and they did not regard it as natural. Given Indonesia's revolutionary background - and he expressed scorn of the manner in which Malaya had achieved its independence - and its anti-colonial attitudes, no one could expect any other view from Indonesia. (In this latter statement I think he is perfectly correct).

2. So far as military assistance to Azahari was concerned, the Indonesians had given none, and if they had the revolution would have been a success. There were many Indonesians fully equipped in paratroop and jungle operations and the whole uprising would have been well organised and impossible to suppress.

3. I told Subandrio that we were disturbed in Australia at the deterioration in relations between Malaya and Indonesia. No good could come of this. Subandrio said that he agreed but said also that relations between Indonesia and Malaya could not be carried out on the basis of public statements by Malayan leaders, especially the Tunku, insulting to Indonesia. If the Tunku continued to suggest that Indonesia was deeply involved in the Brunei rebellion, that the Government was dominated by Communists, and that its intentions towards Malaya were inimical and the product of Malayan economic successes and Indonesian failures, a situation would be built up whereby Indonesia would believe that Malaya had decided on a position of hostility towards Indonesia.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

:GS I.32592/4

If, however, Malayan leaders could show the kind of restraint in difficult times which had been shown by Australian leaders, there was no reason why their differences should not be patched up. He had been encouraged by the fact that that morning the Malayan Ambassador had for the first time presented and aidememoire about relations between the two countries, while the views expressed in the aide memoire were entirely unacceptable, this was the kind of channel through which differences between the countries should be discussed. Impetuous public statements would put Indonesia in the position where any gesture of friendship towards Malaya would be regarded as a loss of face.

4. Although I sought on three occasions to get Subandrio's views on the next step in the problem of Indonesian/Malayan relations and on Malaysia, he would not be drawn except to reiterate his view that everything would stem from an improvement in general relations with Malaya. Seen from here, the Tunku does seem to have been a bit free swinging. The Malayan Ambassador agrees with this and says he is trying to persuade him to be a bit more "discreet".

5. I did not follow the suggestions in paragraph 5 of your 1010. The extent of these demonstrations in Djakarta has been grossly exaggerated in the Djakarta press and this may have been reflected in Australia. Estimates of both the British and Malayan Embassies here are that no more than three to four thousand people were involved in the public meeting and not four hundred thousand as suggested in the press, and it is perfectly clear that the Indonesian authorities took the most stringent precautions to see that there were no offensive demonstrations against Foreign Embassy property or personnel. Army guards at both the British and Malayan Embassies were greatly increased in advance and without any prompting, and one small column of potential demonstrators approaching the British Chancery were rapidly dispersed and sent home by the military police. The Government having taken such precautions it would, I think, have been unwise to stress the effect on Indonesia's reputation of an inaccurately reported and rather minor occurrence, even if, of course, press distortions were no doubt authorised by the Government itself.

Shann.

MIN.&DEPT E.A.
MIM.&DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

28th December, 1962

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

240

190

KA

I.32531

Dated: 27th December, 1962
1226

FROM:

Rec'd: 27th December, 1962
1630

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

339. SECRET.

Addressed Canberra 339 repeated Kuala Lumpur 36, London 4.

Canberra please pass to London.

Reference my telegram 333.

Brunei.

Selkirk says Sultan wants early negotiations with federation on terms of Bruneis entry into Malaysia. Otherwise he has little to add to previous reports. He believes the administration will need substantial strengthening with British Expatriate staff. Selkirk also believes British forces will be in Brunei for a long time. There has not been signs of popular rallying to the Sultan after the revolt. While sensitive to the point that United Kingdom should not appear to be pushing Brunei into Malaysia he believes Brunei outside Malaysia would be a "political conker". His most hopeful view is that Brunei's actual entry into Malaysia mite conincide with renewed local confidence in Government and Administration.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

27th December, 1962

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RECEIVED
2 JAN 1963
DEPT. OF DEFENCE
CANBERRA

CONFIDENTIAL

CYPHER
POL.293/2

239

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched: 2030 hours 27th December, 1962.
Received: 0840 hours 28th December, 1962.

PRIORITY

TELEGRAM NO. 1634 CONFIDENTIAL

To British High Commissioner, Kuala Lumpur 1455.

REPEATED: British High Commissioners Canberra 1634, Wellington 924, Commissioner-General Singapore, British Ambassador Manila and Saving Washington, British Mission New York, British Delegation S.A.T.O., Governor Jesselton, Kuching, High Commissioner Brunei.

Djakarta Telegrams 803 to 807.

INDONESIA AND BRUNEI

In informing Tunku of substance of H.M. Ambassador's report of his interview with Dr. Leimena you will no doubt if you judge it wise include the assessment in paragraph 4 of Djakarta Telegram 807 that some relaxation of tension between Malaya and Indonesia would help. Please report reactions and any suggestions you may have to this end. We recognise of course that in view of Tunku's public reaction to Indonesian provocation reported in your telegram 984 chances of relaxation are not hopeful.

SECRETARY OF STATE

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CONFIDENTIAL

238

TELEGRAM

Cypher

188

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched: 11.03 hours 26th December, 1962.

Received: 08.00 " 27th December, 1962.

IMMEDIATE

TELEGRAM NO.1623. CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed British High Commissioners Canberra 1623, Wellington 913, Kuala Lumpur 1439.

Following is text of Djakarta telegram addressed Foreign Office 803 of 24th December repeated for information Singapore, Kuala Lumpur 39, Canberra 104, Wellington N.92, Manila and Saving Washington, British Mission New York, United Kingdom Delegation NATO, Jesselton, Kuching, Brunei.

BEGINS.

My telegram 799 (not to all)

BRUNEI

I duly saw the First Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Leimena at his house at 6 p.m. this evening December 24th. The interview lasted an hour and a quarter.

2. Although discussion was in fact friendly the only publicity formula to which he would agree (pleading "the political parties" as his reason) was as follows.

3. BEGINS. As the Foreign Minister Dr. Subandrio is unfortunately ill the British Ambassador called on the First Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Leimena to discuss recent events in Brunei. There was a frank exchange of views. ENDS.

4. I made the point firmly that if in the event the Indonesian Government said more we naturally should have to do likewise.

5. Avowedly Dr. Leimena was unwilling to commit himself to anything but emphasised that our friendly approach /would

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237

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received:

would be appreciated.

6. Full report follows. Meanwhile I am informing my United States colleague that our demarche has been made. ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE

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2 JAN 1963
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CANBERRA

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TELEGRAM

Cypher
POL.293/2

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched: 00.45 hours 25th December, 1962
Received: 08.30 hours 28th December, 1962

ROUTINE

TELEGRAM No. 1620 CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed British High Commissioners Canberra 1620, Wellington 911 Kuala Lumpur 1436.

Following is text of Djakarta telegram addressed to Foreign Office 800 December 24th repeated for information to Singapore, Wellington N.19, Kuala Lumpur 36, Manila, Canberra 103 and Saving to Washington, British Mission New York, British Delegation NATO, Jesselton, Kuching, Brunei.

BEGINS

BRUNEI

Foreign Office telegram 60 to COSEL Nassau.

On reflection I have ventured to change one of the words in the message. In the second paragraph of it reference is made to "the three Borneo territories". Since, however, our publicity is emphasizing that Brunei is an autonomous State under British protection and is not administered by Britain it might be as well to refer instead to "the three Northern Borneo territories".

2. I have accordingly made this change, and I hope that Your Lordship will approve it.

ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE

file

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

235
~~186~~

MEH

I.32496

FROM:

Dated: 24th December, 1962
1430
Rec'd: 26th December, 1962
0830

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

1025. SECRET

Brunei — Indonesian Support for Rebels

Repeated Kuala Lumpur 10.

Kuala Lumpur's Telegram 10.

We support paragraph 4 and expect Indonesians to consider carefully before becoming physically involved if they believe that United Kingdom and United States would react strongly It is, therefore, probable that support will not go beyond local and clandestine physical support from time being at least (see our telegram 1008). Even clandestine support might soon be detected and become attributable and in any case, the physical difficulties in offering training facilities and refuge are quite great in view of the lack of communications and airfields within easy reach of the rebel areas.

Shann.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

26th December, 1962

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FOR AUTHORISED D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM GUARD

234

MT

I.32475 ~~185~~

FROM:

Dated 24th December, 1962
1735
Rec'd 25th December, 1962
0916

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.

3476. SECRET AND GUARD.

(Please pass Djakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Manila), repeated London 949, Australian Mission to United Nations.

Our 3436.

Indonesia and Brunei.

United States Ambassador Jones has been unable to secure appointment with Sukarno but is to put United States position to Subandrio on December 26th, or earlier if possible.

2. We gather from State Department that Jones sought to delay his approach until after Fry had acted. Jones was instructed not to delay since Department thought United States representations would be weakened in Indonesian eyes if they followed those of British.

3. We have drawn Department's attention to Minister's statement of December 21st.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

25th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION OF THE MINISTER

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SECRET

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282
183

VKKQZ051HH
RR RGYDYA
ZOV RGMPA
HH
RR RGMPACR
DE RGMPAB 3/24
R 240332Z
FM CINC FAREAST
TG RGMPACR/MINDEF LONDON
RGYPACR/DEFENCE CANBERRA
BT

1962 DEC 24 06:24

S E C R E T JIO 150 FOR YEA FROM MACAULEY PD REFHOUR
AIS 59 DATED 14 DEC PE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS AS AT 20 DEC PD BRUNEI
5800 FEET UNDER REPAIR LATER TO BE 6300 PD KUCHING 6300 BITUMEN
PD SIBU 3600 GRASS BEING EXTENDED TO 4500 PRESENT USABLE LENGTH
1800 PD TAWAU 4500 LATERITE PD FULL DETAILS OF STRIPS AND HELIPAD
IN NEXT BAG
BT
24/0340Z

Defence

SECRET

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following—
YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED.
NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY.
ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

I
NNNN

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NNNNMV

CCSE0037

SECRET

1962 DEC 22 11:01

D31
182
C12/3437

~~HW~~

RR RGYDXA

~~DE RGWPA 220302~~

R 221205GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

Chiefs
Defence
DMI (Maj Whyte

~~BT~~

S E C R E T SAC 49 BORNEO SITUATION PD REFERENCE SAC 37 OF 15 DEC PD 1/ 7 GURKHAS LESS 150 PERSONNEL HAVE NOW MOVED TO SINGAPORE EX IPOH PD BATTALION MOVING WITH ALL SUPPORTING WEAPONS PD TASK PD TO BE PREPARED FOR INTERNAL SECURITY OPERATIONS SINGAPORE OR REINFORCMENT NORTH BORNEO PD 150 PERSONNEL REFERRED TO ABOVE REMAINING ON BORDER SECURITY MALAYA

~~BT~~

22/0520Z

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO underlining reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONTINUED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

1. A/S(DP)
2. Mr Campbell copy
cc A CGS
A/CJSIC 27/12

SECRET

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(5)

181 230

NNNN

1962 DEC 22 11:01

SECRET

C12/3-4-6

VZCZCCSE0035

~~EGCZCMCA044~~

~~SMA~~ 035

~~Q JSA106~~

HH

~~RR RGVDXA~~

~~DE RGMPA 220301~~

R 221208GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CABERRA

BT

Defence

DMI (Mg Wilcyte)

S E C R E T SAC 48 BORNEO SITUATION PD GENERAL SUMMARY OVER LAST 48 HOURS FOLLOWS PD OPERATIONS CONTINUE TO PROGRESS SATISFACTORILY PD FORCES ARE CONCENTRATING ON ELIMINATION OF REMAINING REBELS AND BLOCKING OF ESCAPE ROUTES PD SEVEN KNOWN ESCAPE ROUTES TO INDONESIA NOW COVERED BY UK FORCES PD THESE BLOCKS HAVE BEEN PRE-POSITIONED BY HELICOPTER PD APPEARS POSSIBLE THAT REBELS HAVE REORGANISED SOME EXTENT ACCORDING TO PRE-ARRANGED PLAN PD BRUNEI AREA PD THREE MEMBERS CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND A BRANCH CHAIRMAN CAPTURED PD ALBION OPERATION IN BRUNEI BAY PD TEMBURONG DISTRICT PD REBEL STRENGTH STILL ESTIMATED WELL OVER 300 PD TRIBAL ELEMENT IN THIS AREA

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SMA 035

Q JGA1 06

HR

RR RGYDXA

DE RGMPA 220301

R 221208GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CABERRA

BT

S E C R E T SAC 48 BORNEO SITUATION PD GENERAL SUMMARY OVER LAST 48 HOURS FOLLOWS PD OPERATIONS CONTINUE TO PROGRESS SATISFACTORILY PD FORCES ARE CONCENTRATING ON ELIMINATION OF REMAINING REBELS AND BLOCKING OF ESCAPE ROUTES PD SEVEN KNOWN ESCAPE ROUTES TO INDONESIA NOW COVERED BY UK FORCES PD THESE BLOCKS HAVE BEEN PRE-POSITIONED BY HELICOPTER PD APPEARS POSSIBLE THAT REBELS HAVE REORGANISED SOME EXTENT ACCORDING TO PRE-ARRANGED PLAN PD BRUNEI AREA PD THREE MEMBERS CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND A BRANCH CHAIRMAN CAPTURED PD ALBION OPERATION IN BRUNEI BAY PD TEMBURONG DISTRICT PD REBEL STRENGTH STILL ESTIMATED WELL OVER 300 PD TRIBAL ELEMENT IN THIS AREA

PAGE TWO RGMPA 220301

FRIENDLY TO REBELS PD TERRAIN GOOD FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES PD KUCHING PD PREVIOUS REPORT OF 200 REBELS IN BAU/ENKILILII INVESTIGATED BY 40 CDO PD RESULT NEGATIVE PD CCO IN SARAWAK QUIET PD APPEARS NO IMMEDIATE THREAT INTHIS AREA FROM HOSTILE FORCES

~~T E E E E E E E FORCES~~

~~BT~~

22/05202

1. A/S (OP) [illegible]
2. [illegible]

Paraphrase NOT required — NO unidentified reply other than one of the following— CONFIRM, CORRECT, NIL, NOT ABLE, NOT KNOWN, ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK), NOT UNDERSTOOD

A

SECRET

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CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

POL.293/2
CYPHER

-239

1 80

RECEIVED
2 JAN 1963
DEPT. OF DEFENCE
CANBERRA

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched: 23.20 hours 22nd December, 1962
Received: 09.00 hours 24th December, 1962

ROUTINE

TELEGRAM NO. 1615. CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed British High Commissioners Kuala Lumpur 1425, Canberra 1615, Wellington 906.

Following is text of Djakarta telegram addressed Foreign Office 793 December 22nd, repeated for information to Singapore, Kuala Lumpur 35, British Mission New York, Kuching, Jesselton, Canberra, Wellington Paris and Saving to Washington, Brunei.

BEGINS

BRUNEI PUBLICITY

Defence Copy

I propose to tell Dr. Subandrio that what we both say publicly especially at this stage is as important as what we say privately. If you approve I shall urge him to agree that our respective spokesmen should restrict themselves until further notice to the statement that we have had a frank (and I hope we can add friendly) discussion about Brunei.

2. Whether or not Dr. Subandrio agreed this gambit might do something to minimise further tendentious statements from the Indonesians. I realise that your personal message to him would afford excellent publicity; but if we publish it now he would no doubt feel compelled to publish his comment also which in the present atmosphere here might well be adverse.

ENDS

file

SECRETARY OF STATE

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

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179

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

POL.293/2

Despatched: 2200 hours 22nd December, 1962 CYPHER

Received: 0900 " 23rd December, 1962.

TELEGRAM NO. 1613 CONFIDENTIAL

British High Commissioners Kuala Lumpur 1423, Canberra 1613, Wellington 904

Following is text of Djakarta telegram addressed Foreign Office 791 December 22nd repeated for information to Singapore, Manila, Kuala Lumpur 34 and Saving to Washington, Jesselton, Kuching, Brunei, British Mission New York.

BEGINS.

Defence Copy

B R U N E I

My Malayan colleague has now returned to Djakarta and is trying to obtain an interview with the Foreign Minister Subandrio who is genuinely ill in bed. My colleagues instructions he tells me are to obtain clarification of Doctor Subandrio's statement in Singapore (please see Singapore telegram to me 239).

2. My United States colleague tells me that his Government are prepared to instruct him to make a demarche to the Indonesian Government as soon as we have made ours. The general line which the Americans propose to take is that the Brunei revolt is now over and that nothing should be done to cause a recrudescence of the fighting. Any problems arising between Indonesia, Malaya, Philippines and Britain should be discussed together amicably and in strict confidence. The United States Government favour the creation of Malaysia which they regard as calculated to contribute to the maintenance of peace and stability in South East Asia.

3. I told the United States Ambassador that I thought that some such demarche would be most helpful and that I would let him know as soon as I had made the representations about which I was awaiting instructions. END. SECRETARY OF STATE.

file

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

227

178

SECRET

MEH

I.32403

FROM:

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
2311

Rec'd: 23rd December, 1962
0830

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE

333. SECRET.

Repeated London 3 for Eastman (Canberra please pass to London) Repeated Kuala Lumpur 35, for Critchley.

Reference your telegram 611 : Brunei.

I will go over these points with Selkirk as soon as possible. My own comments follow:-

(1) Your points (b). It is going to be very difficult problem to get stable constitutional advance in Brunei. There seems little to build on between the Sultan and his incompetant Lalac group and the Party Rakyat leaders heavily involved in the revolt. The general administration of the country is very weak. The British are urging on the Sultan the need for social and political advance and that there can be no return to the status quota but they are under no illusions about the early prospects. I think that any explanation to the Philippines should be in pretty realistic terms.

(2) Your point (c). I agree but such statements will require very careful wording. They might be of advantage to those who are out to wreck Malaysia. They also might encourage the Sultan to resist British and Malayan pressure to bring Brunei into Malaysia It is possible that an arbitrary decision by the Sultan to bring Brunei into Malaysia will be required without much regard to popular self-determination. A weak Brunei outside Malaysia would be both very vulnerable in itself and would be a natural trouble stop in the Malaysia region.

(3) Your point (d). It ought to be possible for the British to give this assurance. The British in Phoenix Park believe that they will have a heavy and continuing involvement. The scale of the effort already made, the sorts of planning studies now being conducted, and the formation of the Borneo Security Council all support this view.

(4) I appreciate the "colonial" implications in the above. They may be to some extent inescapable. Far from disengagement, Malaysia is involving the British more deeply.

Jockel.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

23rd December, 1962

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

226

177

SECRET

MEH

I.32400

FROM:

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
2258

Rec'd: 23rd December, 1962
0900

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE

335. SECRET

Brunei.

Following from J.I.C. review 21st December.

No significant change in situation. Review contains mainly summary of telegram J.I.C. 188. Some members expressed the view that if British forces were withdrawn the revolt would probably immediately resume full proportions.

2. Papers on Indonesian complicity in revolt, likely Indonesian involvement over the next three months, short of direct military intervention, and causes of revolt, being prepared. Available 24th December and will be sent by bag 26th.

3. Singapore J.I.C. (F.E.) revue also reports no change in Singapore internal security situation.

4. Malaysia. Papers on external threat to Malaysia prepared for Angol-Malayan Defence Planning, also being sent 26th.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

23rd December, 1962

SECRET

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

176 225

SECRET

MEH

I.32399

FROM:

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
2255

Rec'd: 23rd December, 1962
0900

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE

334. SECRET.

Brunei.

Commissioner's Generals office advises Sultan's action to suspend constitution and set up Emergency Council came as a surprise and was contrary to recommendations by Selkirk and White. Some concern is felt that suspension might not be constitutional and at the possible effect of international opinion. However, action could also be regarded as demonstrating Sultan's independence of British control. Main British concern remains not to become too directly involved in civil administration but to encourage the Sultan to create effective local administration. However, it is recognised that shortage of competent local officials will inevitable necessitate considerable British proping-up.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P:M's

23rd December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

224
175

MEH

I.32401

FROM:

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
2305
Rec'd: 23rd December, 1962
0830

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE

332. CONFIDENTIAL

Repeated Kuala Lumpur 34.

Brunei.

Selkirk held a 3 hour meeting with the Sultan and his advisers on Tuesday the 18th. The main topics discussed were clemency, internal policy and Malaysia.

1. Selkirk urged the Sultan to pursue as clement a policy as practicable. If it was ture that many of the rebels had been misled into believing that they were fighting the Sultan's cause, then this policy was the more practicable and desirable.

2. Selkirk stressed the need for internal social and economic progress. There could be no return to the status quota. This included agricultural development and land reform. He said the Sultan was personally responsive, but he had very grave doubts whether the Executive arm of the Brunei Government was capable of understanding what was involved let alone able to develop the administrative strength to do what was necessary. Selkirk is very concerned that there is no effective administration in Brunei and wishes to avoid any suggestion of British military or emergency civil government.

3. The Sultan said he was not convinced of the sovial and economic benefits of Malaysia. If he became convinced he would take Brunei into Malaysia. The Sultan said that an association with Indonesia was unthinkable. According to Selkirk the Sultan hankers after some form of independence. The Sultan argued that with North Borneo and Sarawak in Malaysia, Bruneu would come under military protection automatically. If anything further was necessary Brunei could become associated in some way with the British Malayan Defence Agreement. Selkirk argued that the Sultan could not rely on the British Defence Agreement for ever, and he would need the internal security protection that entry into Malaysia would bring. According to Selkirk it was like talking to an intelligent child to discuss these matters with the Sultan.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

23rd December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

223

174

MEH

I.32406

FROM:

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
1820
Rec'd: 23rd December, 1962
0800

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR

Brunei

464. RESTRICTED.

At meeting with Foreign Press correspondents in Kuala Lumpur this morning, Tunku made following points:-

(1) Malaysia would go on.

(2) Indonesian Communist Party would continue to make trouble in Brunei.

(3) Federation would increase its defence spending (if necessary at the expense of development) and special police force would be restored to emergency peak at 45,000 men (an increase of 20,000).

(4) He was unhappy about the security position in Singapore, but could do nothing about it. He would continue to clean up the Federation.

(5) Philippines was not to blame for what happened in Brunei but he would ask for postponement of A.S.A. Meeting until conditions were less awkward. He did not see how he could visit the Philippines while Azahari was there.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

23rd December, 1962

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

~~173~~ 222

MEH

I.32404

FROM:

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
1820
Rec'd: 23rd December, 1962
0800

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR

Brunei - Revolt.

463. UNCLASSIFIED

My telegram 21st December, 460.

Paragraph 3 should read "insuperable problems".

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M's

23rd December, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

172/221

SECRET

SRG

I. 32371

Dated: 22nd December, 1962
1200

FROM:

Rec'd: 22nd December, 1962
1730

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

462. SECRET. PRIORITY. Brunei

Repeated Singapore 39.

For Jockel.

For Minister from Critchley.

Your 551.

I agree with your suggestions which would be consistent with Malayan views. As you know Tunku has repeated since the revolt that Brunei is free to decide whether it wants to join Malaysia or not.

2. In addition to proposing constitutional reforms I believe Sultan of Brunei should be persuaded to make an early statement of intention that Brunei should become independent next year. This would help Brunei and Malaysia from subversion and from interference by Indonesia and the Committee of Seventeen. If possible (and I assume British would insist on this) there should be understanding that Brunei would subsequently seek early inclusion in Malaysia.

MIN. & DEPT E.A. (3030/2/1)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

22nd December, 1962

Ricky

SECRET

SECRET

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Brunei

TOP SECRET

720

171

OP IMMEDIATE

D5570
CSE030

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE 221230GH
TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

T O P S E C R E T

SAC.50 TAFFY. REFERENCE SAC 45 OF 191600GH. JPS(FE)(62)196(A/B) REVISED DRAFT OF 15 DEC 62 HEADED MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF CONTINUED OPERATIONS IN BORNEO HAS BEEN REWRITTEN UNDER SAME REFERENCE BUT DATED 21 DEC 62. PARAS 7, 8, 9, 60 AND 16 OF PAPER FOLLOW. QUOTE. 7. DEPLOYMENT OF A TOKEN FORCE. IN THE EVENT OF A DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION IN THAILAND/LAOS AND THE NEED TO DEMONSTRATE UK SUPPORT, IT WILL STILL BE FEASIBLE TO DEPLOY HUNTERS AS IN THE RECENT CASE LESS THE FLIGHT COMMITTED TO BORNEO OPERATIONS. ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT MAY BE REQUIRED FROM UK. 8. SEATO PLAN 5 - PLAN TAFFY. ALTHOUGH ARMY MAJOR UNITS ARE UNTOUCHED AND ALTHOUGH FEAF MRT AIRCRAFT WILL ONLY BE COMMITTED TO A MINOR EXTENT BY BORNEO OPERATIONS WITHIN THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT, OUR ABILITY TO MOUNT PLAN TAFFY AT THE PRESENT TIME IS EFFECTED BY:- (A) DEPLOYMENT IN SUPPORT OF BORNEO OPERATIONS OF ARMY AND RAF THEATRE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRED IN SUPPORT OF TAFFY. THESE ARE REQUIRED TO FORM ARMY AD HOC UNITS FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE TAFFY FORCE AND FOR RAF CONTROL AGENCIES AND VITAL AIR COMMUNICATIONS. THE RUN DOWN OF FORCES TO THE LEVELS SUGGESTED IN PARA 5 ABOVE WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE THE REQUIREMENTS IN BORNEO AND A DETAILED ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED FROM SERVICE HEADQUARTERS AS TO THE REINFORCEMENTS
NEEDED TO REGAIN THE ABILITY TO MOUNT TAFFY. IN GENERAL THESE REINFORCEMENTS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM UK (B) APPROPRIATION OF ARMY SIGNAL EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES FROM THE COMMONWEALTH STRATEGIC RESERVE FOR USE IN BORNEO. THESE

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REQUIRED TO FORM ARMY AD HOC UNITS FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE TAFFY FORCE AND FOR RAF CONTROL AGENCIES AND VITAL AIR COMMUNICATIONS. THE RUN DOWN OF FORCES TO THE LEVELS SUGGESTED IN PARA 5 ABOVE WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE THE REQUIREMENTS IN BORNEO AND A DETAILED ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED FROM SERVICE HEADQUARTERS AS TO THE REINFORCEMENTS

NEEDED TO REGAIN THE ABILITY TO MOUNT TAFFY. IN GENERAL THESE REINFORCEMENTS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM UK (B) APPROPRIATION OF ARMY SIGNAL EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES FROM THE COMMONWEALTH STRATEGIC RESERVE FOR USE IN BORNEO. THESE ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY AND ESSENTIAL TO THE TAFFY FORCE. THEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE REQUIRED IN BORNEO AND A MEANS OF REPLACEMENT FOR TAFFY NEEDS FURTHER INVESTIGATION (C) ARMY BASE UNITS AND PERSONNEL REQUIRED TO LAUNCH AND SUPPORT THE TAFFY FORCE ARE NOW EMPLOYED EITHER IN BORNEO OR IN SUPPORT OF BORNEO OPERATIONS. THESE INCLUDE ORDNANCES SUPPLY AND PETROL, WORKSHOPS AND SIGNAL DETACHMENTS, MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH ARE THREE TERMINAL STATIONS IN SINGAPORE, UNLIKELY TO BE REPLACED EASILY. COMMITMENTS IN SUPPORT OF BORNEO OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE THOUGH SOME REDUCTION IN MANPOWER WILL BE POSSIBLE AS THE FORCE LEVEL DECREASES. AN ASSESSMENT BY GHQ FARELF OF THE REINFORCEMENTS NECESSARY TO MOUNT TAFFY IS ABOUT TO BE MADE (D) UNITS OF THE TAFFY ORDER OF BATTLE (16 FIELD AMBULANCE, 3 AASC AND 10 PORT SQUADRON) HAVE BEEN DESPATCHED TO BORNEO AND WILL NEED EITHER TO BE WITHDRAWN OR REPLACED. (E) ELEMENTS OF THE SRT AND HELICOPTER UNITS REQUIRED FOR PLAN TAFFY ARE DEPLOYED IN BORNEO AND PLANNED THEATRE INCREASES WILL NOT ENABLE BOTH BORNEO

AND TAFFY COMMITMENTS TO BE MET BY FEAF TILL FEBRUARY/MARCH AT THE EARLIEST (F) LSTS ARE OPERATING IN THE MAINTENANCE OF THE BORNEO FORCE, BUT THESE COULD BE RELEASED (BY USE OF COMMERCIAL SHIPPING) TO TRANSPORT THE TAFFY SEA LIFT AS PLANNED. 9. IN GENERAL, THEREFORE , REINFORCEMENT WILL BE NECESSARY IN THE THEATRE BEFORE PLAN TAFFY CAN BE LAUNCHED AT THE SAME TIME AS BORNEO OPERATIONS BEING MAINTAINED EVEN AFTER THE FORCE LEVEL HAS REDUCED. THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING ASSESSED BY SERVICE HEADQUARTERS. 10. SEATO PLANS 4, 6 AND 7. NONE OF THE MAJOR UNITS DEPLOYED IN BORNEO IS REQUIRED FOR THESE PLANS, ALTHOUGH WHEN DEPLOYMENT PLANS ARE DEVELOPED SOME ADDITIONAL MINOR UNITS MAY BE REQUIRED FROM UK. 16. DEFECTION OF LOCAL CIVIL EMPLOYEES. PLANS EXIST TO REPLACE ESSENTIAL CIVIL EMPLOYEES IN THE BASE BY SERVICE PERSONNEL FROM LOCAL UNITS. THIS IS TO SOME EXTENT AFFECTED BY BORNEO OPERATIONS, BUT A DEMAND ON UK FOR STANDBY REINFORCEMENTS FOR ARMY UNITS IS NOW BEING MADE IN ORDER THAT WE SHALL RETAIN OUR ABILITY TO SUSTAIN OPERATIONS IN BORNEO. HOWEVER SHOULD THIS BE SIMULTANEOUS WITH AN INTERNAL SITUATION DEMANDING ASSISTANCE TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER MORE FORCES MAY BE REQUIRED. UNLESS THESE CAN BE FOUND FROM OTHER SOURCES E.G.

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BEING MAINTAINED EVEN AFTER THE FORCE LEVEL HAS REDUCED. THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING ASSESSED BY SERVICE HEADQUARTERS. 10. SEATO PLANS 4, 6 AND 7. NONE OF THE MAJOR UNITS DEPLOYED IN BORNEO IS REQUIRED FOR THESE PLANS, ALTHOUGH WHEN DEPLOYMENT PLANS ARE DEVELOPED SOME ADDITIONAL MINOR UNITS MAY BE REQUIRED FROM UK. 16. DEFECTION OF LOCAL CIVIL EMPLOYEES. PLANS EXIST TO REPLACE ESSENTIAL CIVIL EMPLOYEES IN THE BASE BY SERVICE PERSONNEL FROM LOCAL UNITS. THIS IS TO SOME EXTENT AFFECTED BY BORNEO OPERATIONS, BUT A DEMAND ON UK FOR STANDBY REINFORCEMENTS FOR ARMY UNITS IS NOW BEING MADE IN ORDER THAT WE SHALL RETAIN OUR ABILITY TO SUSTAIN OPERATIONS IN BORNEO. HOWEVER SHOULD THIS BE SIMULTANEOUS WITH AN INTERNAL SITUATION DEMANDING ASSISTANCE TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER MORE FORCES MAY BE REQUIRED. UNLESS THESE CAN BE FOUND FROM OTHER SOURCES E.G. TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS, DEPOTS, HM SHIPS REFITTING, IT MAY BE NECESSARY

TO CALL ON BRITISH UNITS OF 28 COMMONWEALTH BRIGADE OR REQUEST ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM MALAYA. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES UK REINFORCEMENTS WOULD ARRIVE IN TIME. UNQUOTE. FORCE LEVELS REFERRED TO IN 8(A) AS FOLLOWS. NAVAL. ONE DESTROYER/ FRIGATE. TWO COASTAL MINESWEEPERS. ARMY. TWO INFANTRY BATTALIONS. SARAWAK RANGERS. ONE SQUADRON ARMOURED CARS. AIR FORCE. ONE FLIGHT STRIKE AIRCRAFT (FOUR HUNTERS). TWO VALLETTAS. ONE SQUADRON HELICOPTERS. ONE SQUADRON PIONEERS (4 TWIN 6 SINGLE). SMALL PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE TEAM. RESERVE. BATTALION OR CDO SHIP. NOT CLEAR WHEN PAPER WILL BE REDISCUSSED BY JPC. WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED

A

Paraphrase NOT required — NO
YES
NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY.
ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

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FILE (1)

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AAF C 121
Revised Sep. 1958
Pads of 100

PRIORITY

TOP SECRET

CIPHER MESSAGE

Serial No. D5572
CSE039.

1 Base Printing Company RAAOC—550/58—2m Pads

FROM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

DATE — Time of Origin 221200GH.

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

INFO

SAC. 47.

TOPSECRET

BORNEO OPERATIONS. FOLLOWING DESPATCHED FROM CINC TO GENERAL WALKER COMBRITFOR BORNEO AT 210812Z. PARAGRAPHS HAVE BEEN REARRANGED. PARA 3. FORCES AVAILABLE TO YOU. (C) AIR. YOU SHOULD NOT COUNT ON DAILY SERVICEABILITY OF MORE THAN THREE AND HALF BELVEDERES AND THREE AND HALF WHIRLWINDS. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO USE TRANSPORT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER OF PRIORITY (1) LAND/RIVER (2) STOL (3) VTOL. (B) NAVAL. ALBION TOGETHER WITH WESSEX AIRCRAFT MUST RETURN FOR MAINTENANCE JAN 08. DATE OF RETURN UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT WILL PROBABLY BE AT LEAST THREE WEEKS EXCEPT IN EMERGENCY. (A) YOUR EXISTING ORDER OF BATTLE WITH ONLY MINOR REINFORCEMENTS FROM HERE WITHIN OUR RESOURCES. PARA 1. I WOULD LIKE AN APPRECIATION FROM YOU TO ENABLE ME TO TELL MINDEF ON DEC 28 IF WE CAN CONTINUE TO CONDUCT OPS WITHIN EXISTING THEATRE RESOURCES. PARA 5. I APPRECIATE THIS IS NOT AN EASY JOB TO DO. PARA 4. COS COULD VISIT YOU TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY TO DISCUSS IF YOU WOULD LIKE THIS. PARA 2. YOU SHOULD ASSUME THE THREAT TO BE ON THE EXISTING SCALE BUT WITH SOME INFILTRATION ACROSS THE BORDER NOT AMOUNTING TO INTERVENTION BY INDONESIA. END OF MESSAGE. VERBAL ADVICE INDICATES APPRECIATION SHOULD ARRIVE THURSDAY 27 DEC. JPS ARE ALSO PREPARING SIMILAR STUDY COVERING A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME.

1. Ch JPC
2 Ch Plans
3 Ch JSC
4 file

A — Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

~~69~~ 218

JPH.

I.23211.

DATED. 21ST DECEMBER 1962.
2007.
REC'D. 22ND DECEMBER 1962.
0645.

FROM:

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION,
LONDON.

1 Malaysia
2 Brunei

6286. SECRET.

REPEATED SINGAPORE (FOR JOCKEL) 20, KUALA LUMPUR (FOR CRITCHLEY) 23.
(CANBERRA PSE PASS TO SINGAPORE AND KUALA LUMPUR).

FROM EXTERNAL.

FOR MINISTER FROM EASTMAN.

YOUR 4584.

WHILE I WAS SPEAKING TO PECK (ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY) CLEARANCE ARRIVED FROM HOME IN NASSAU AND IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS WERE SENT TO PILCHER TO PROPOSE TALKS IN LONDON IN SECOND HALF OF JANUARY.

FOREIGN OFFICE ENVISAGE SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCENTS AFTER CHRISTMAS.

BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARDS AGENDA AND GENERAL HANDLING OF TALKS REMAINS AS REPORTED IN MY RECENT TELEGRAMS.

2. IN RELATION GENERALLY TO YOUR POINTS (B) , (C) AND (D) PECK DOUBTED WHETHER BRUNEI WAS OF MORE THAN VERY MARGINAL INTEREST TO PHILIPPINES EXCEPT IN RESPECT OF PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE INDONESIAN INTERVENTION.

3. ON YOUR POINT (B) PECK AGREED READILY WITH NEED TO ENCOURAGE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS.

AS HOWEVER, ALL ELECTED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL BELONG TO AZAHARIS PARTY HE FELT THAT FOR SOME TIME AT LEAST ANY PROPOSAL FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM SHOULD BE VIEWED WITH GREATEST CAUTION.

OTHERWISE AZAHARI MAY NOT BE PUT INTO POSITION TO PROMOTE POLITICALLY WHAT HE HAD TRIED AND FAILED TO ACHIEVE MILITARILY.

(I WOULD BE GLAD TO TAKE THIS UP AGAIN WITH PECK IN LIGHT OF YOUR CONSIDERATION OF ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS BY CRITCHLEY AND JOCKEL.)

WHILE WE WERE TALKING A TELEGRAM ARRIVED FROM SINGAPORE QUOTING U.P.I. REPORT THAT SULTAN HAD JUST ANNOUNCED SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTION AND ABOLITION OF COUNCILS - PECK COULD NOT CONFIRM ACCURACY BUT KNEW THAT SULTAN HAD BEEN CONSIDERING SUCH A MOVE.

4. AS TO YOUR POINT (C) BRITISH HAVE BEEN EMPHASIZING IN SEVERAL QUARTERS THAT DECISION IS PURELY ONE FOR BRUNEI.

MOST RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENT WAS BY PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY IN HOUSE ON 19TH DECEMBER AND I UNDERSTAND TUNKU MADE SIMILAR PUBLIC STATEMENT THIS WEEK.

PECK SAID THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD BE HAPPY TO KEEP EMPHASIZING THIS AND TO MAKE POINT SPECIFICALLY TO PHILIPPINES.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BROWN

./2..

Secty

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.32311.

FURTHERMORE, SULTAN HIMSELF IS CONSIDERING A GENERAL DRAFT STATEMENT WHICH INCLUDES CLEAR STATEMENT ON THE POINT.

5. PECK TOOK YOUR POINT (D) AND AGREED THAT OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE TAKEN AT PROPOSED TALKS TO INFORM PHILIPPINES OF BRITISH INTENTIONS.

PRECISE PLANS AS TO WHAT FORCES SHOULD REMAIN, AND FOR HOW LONG, WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH SULTAN AND WOULD, OF COURSE, BE LARGELY INFLUENCED BY SUCCESS IN MOPPING UP REBELS AND SEALING OFF INDONESIAN BORDER BETWEEN NOW AND DATE OF TALKS.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE.
P.M.'s

22ND DECEMBER 1962.

SECRET SECRET SECRET

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

168

AM

FROM:

I.32362

Sent: 22nd December, 1962

Recd: 22nd December, 1962
2130

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

419. CONFIDENTIAL.

Brunei.

Learned last night from Congressman Salhetga that Vice President yesterday afternoon 21st December called meeting to discuss Brunei. Participants were Vice President, senior Foreign Affairs officials, members of the House Foreign Relations Committee, and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee including Senator Sumalong, Opposition leader.

2. Meeting agreed:

(a) Government should exercise the utmost caution over Brunei to avoid doing anything that might play into the hands of the Indonesians;

(b) should have no official association with Azahari.

3. There will be no public announcement but some leakage is inevitable.

4. Salhetga commented that continued Philippines restraint on North Borneo might not be possible unless the British offer sufficient prospects of forward movement before Congress resumes in mid January.

Lee.

MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

23rd December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIA

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

~~167~~ 215

AM

FROM:

I.32309

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

Sent: 21st December, 1962
1640
Recd: 22nd December, 1962
0840

SECRET

461. SECRET.

Repeated Singapore 38, Djakarta 19.

Brunei. - Indonesian Support for Rebels.

My telegram 456.

Kamaruddin (Malayan Ambassador) who was recalled for consultations, has returned to Djakarta with Federation's protest onSubandrio's statement. I understand protest goes little further than public statement reported in our 454. Kamaruddin has also received instructions to provide more information about Indonesian's attitudes and activities on Brunei and to analyse Subandrio's statements with the Indonesian Government and refute them point by point.

2. Selkirk is still awaiting authority to make strong demarche in Djakarta meanwhile Fry (United Kingdom Ambassador, Djakarta) has recommended conciliatory approach.

3. Baldwin (United States Ambassador) has been asked to report on Federation's reactions to Indonesian activities as basis for early United States/British talks about Indonesia. He hopes United States will be firm and let it be known that physical intervention by Indonesians would be regarded by United States as serious threat to peace and stability in the area.

4. Although there could be advantage in robust diplomatic representations by United States and United Kingdom to Indonesia I hope that Federation Government will avoid involvement. As reported in my 450 I feel that Indonesia would welcome any opportunity to attack Malaysia and discredit Tunku and that the Malayans would be well advised to take Indonesia quietly.

5. Malayans do not expect overt Indonesian military aid to rebels but expect Indonesians to do whatever they can to support Azahari and to prevent Malaysia. Their present assessment of Indonesian policy is along the following lines:-

(a) There is now an identity of aims of P.K.I. and Communist front parties on the one hand and military intelligence under direction of Subandrio on the other to subvert Borneo territories and prevent Malaysia.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

214

SECRET

AM

I.32309

2.

(b) The T.N.K.U. will receive as much clandestine assistance as can be arranged including arms supplies and (if possible) volunteers.

(c) Members of the T.N.K.U. will be offered rest and training in Indonesia.

(d) Indonesians will seek to exploit opposition parties in Malaysia especially through links with the P.K.I.

(e) Rebels will be given overt political encouragement from Indonesia and in international forums.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

22nd December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

H66 213

SECRET

MEH

I.32307

FROM:

Dated: 21st December, 1962 1930

Rec'd: 22nd December, 1962 0830

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

460. SECRET

Repeated Singapore 37.

From Critchley.

Brunei Revolt.

My 451.

Following our talk on 17th December, Tunku has sent a message by Dato Osman to the Sultan of Brunei including a draft press statement for the Sultan's use.

2. According to Tory (British High Commissioner) the Tunku has pointed out that three courses are open to the Sultan:

(a) To join Malaysia.

(b) To become independent.

(c) To carry on as at present under British protection.

3. I understand the Tunku has pointed out that the third course could create inseparable problems for Brunei and Malaysia. Continuation of a small pocket of colonialism within Malaysia would be target for subversion and international attack. Tunku strongly urges Sultan to seek independence and to follow this with decision to join Malaysia.

4. Sultan told Tory early this week that he would persson-ally decide Brunei's attitude to Malaysia without consulting people after he had weighed all the factors. Tory had impression that Sultan would prefer to continue as at present. He endeavoured to persuade him without apparent success of the difficulties this would create.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

22nd December, 1962

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DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

HS 212

JPH.

I. 32310.
DATED. 21ST DECEMBER 1962. 1925.
REC'D. 22ND DECEMBER 1962. 0610.

FROM;

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION,
LONDON.

6285. SECRET.

REPEATED WASHINGTON 678 NEW YORK 340.

FROM EXTERNAL.

BRUNEI.

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM MACMILLAN TO SUKARNO WAS TELEGRAPHED TO FRY THIS MORNING ALONG WITH INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING ORAL STATEMENT TO BE MADE ON DELIVERY OF MESSAGE.

RELEVANT TELEGRAMS WERE REPEATED TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA AND WILL PRESUMABLY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU.

FRY WAS TO MENTION EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN ASSISTANCE TO REBELS, TO INDICATE THAT MATERIAL WAS STILL BEING SIFTED, AND THAT UNITED KINGDOM MIGHT FEEL COMPELLED TO TAKE UP THIS MATTER AGAIN WITH INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES.

2. SUBSEQUENTLY FRY WAS INSTRUCTED TO DELAY DELIVERY OF MESSAGE PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS (MATTER IS APPARENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION IN NASSAU).

3. FRY IS ALSO BEING INSTRUCTED TO PROCEED WITH INCREASED CAUTION ON QUESTION OF EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN COMPLICITY..

FOREIGN OFFICE HAVE GONE THROUGH THE EVIDENCE DURING TODAY, SINCE DESPATCH OF TELEGRAMS MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE, AND HAVE DECIDED THAT THE ONLY POINT ON WHICH EVIDENCE IS AT ALL STRONG IS ON TRAINING OF REBELS.

THEY HAVE FIRM EVIDENCE OF EXISTENCE OF A TRAINING CAMP IN INDONESIAN TERRITORY AND THAT TRAINEES CARRIED LETTERS FROM AZAHARI REQUESTING TRAINING.

INDONESIAN OFFICER CONCERNED IN TRAINING HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED BY NAME.

WITH REGARD TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, WEAPONS AND UNIFORMS NO USEFUL EVIDENCE HAS COME TO LIGHT.

USE OF INDONESIAN DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR FACILITIES IS ESTABLISHED BUT NOT REGARDED AS USABLE EVIDENCE.

4. FOREIGN OFFICE HAVE, OF COURSE, NO DOUBT ABOUT ROLE INDONESIA HAS PLAYED IN THE AFFAIR BUT THEY HAVE, AFTER CONSIDERATION DECIDED AGAINST ANY MOVE IN UNITED NATIONS (WHICH WOULD INVOLVE CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE OF 17 AND PRESENCE OF AZAHARI) AND FEEL THAT FOR PRESENT AT LEAST, MATTER HAS TO BE HANDLED BILATERALLY, WITH AS MUCH ASSISTANCE AS THEY CAN GET FROM THE UNITED STATES WHOM THEY REGARD AS ONLY FRIENDLY POWER LIKELY TO HAVE ANY INFLUENCE ON INDONESIANS.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.32310.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE.
P.M.'S

22ND DECEMBER 1962.

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DEPARTMENT OF ...
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KA

INWARD CABLEGRAM

A.32276

Dated: 21st December, 1962
1715
Rec'd: 21st December, 1962
2000

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

418. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei.

Manila press reports today :

A. Azahari has "accepted" offer of eleven hundred volunteers from Philippines Trade Union Organisations.

B. Azahari is considering establishing Embassy in Djakarta on assumption of Indonesian recognition.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

22nd December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. S

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Cypher.

209
3 - JAN 1963
C.R. DEPARTMENT INWARD REGISTRY

Despatched: 17.30 hours 20th December, 1962. FOL.293/2.

Received: 08.30 hours 21st December, 1962.

PRIORITY.

TELEGRAM NO. 1594. CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed British High Commissioners, Kuala Lumpur No. 1392, Canberra No. 1594, Wellington No. 886, repeated Saving British High Commissioners, New Delhi No. 289, Karachi No. 209, Colombo No. 122, British Ambassador Manila.

Following is text of Foreign Office Telegram No. 546 dated December 19th to Manila.

BEGINS.

Your Telegrams Nos. 341 and 345 of December 17th.

PRUDRI.

Please inform Philippines Government immediately in strict confidence that Ministers are urgently considering President Macapagal's suggestion for talks and that we very much hope that nothing will be said or done by the Filipinos in the next few days which would compel us to take account of new and unfavourable factors.

ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

file

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEFENCE
248.5.6.
FOL. 162

SECRET

OFFICE-MACDONALD HOUSE (2nd Floor) ORCHARD ROAD,
TELEGRAPHIC: "AUSTCOM SINGAPORE."
P. O. BOX 99.

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
SINGAPORE.

File No: 310/1

Memo No: DRS.119

20th December, 1962.

The Secretary,
Dept. of Defence,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

COMMAND STRUCTURE : BORNEO TERRITORIES OPERATIONS

With reference to telegram No. 308 of 14th December, 1962, to the Department of External Affairs, enclosed is a copy of MINC(FE)(62)12 of 19th December, 1962, which sets out the proposed command structure to be established for the Borneo Territories.

2. Copy of this memorandum and attachment is being forwarded to the Secretary, Department of External Affairs and the Australian High Commission, Kuala Lumpur.

(R. A. HAY)
Colonel
Defence Representative.

A/S(DP)

28 DEC 1962

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

161
207

SUBMITTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF FAR EAST

CINC(FE)(62)12

COPY NO.....18..

19th December, 1962

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF FAR EAST

COMMAND STRUCTURE: BORNEO TERRITORIES OPERATIONS

1. The United Kingdom Commissioner-General held a meeting with the Commander-in-Chief, Far East, Governors of North Borneo, and Sarawak, the High Commissioners for Brunei and Kuala Lumpur and the Commander British Forces Borneo in Labuan on 17th December, 1962.

2. At the meeting it was agreed that the new command structure shown at Annex should be set up immediately.

Secretary,
Commander-in-Chief, Far East

HEADQUARTERS FAR EAST COMMAND

Distribution:- Normal, plus
COMBRITBOR
Governor of North Borneo
Governor of Sarawak
High Commissioner for Brunei
High Commissioner for Kuala Lumpur
Commissioner for Australia in Singapore
Commissioner for New Zealand in Singapore
Chiefs of Staff Committee
BDLS Wellington
BDLS Canberra.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

206

Annex to
CINC(FE)(62)12

COMMAND STRUCTURE: BORNEO TERRITORIES OPERATIONS

1. The Command arrangements in the Borneo Territories have been reviewed in order that the collection of Intelligence, joint planning and the relevant operational action shall be effected with the utmost speed.

2. The nomenclature of the present committees has been altered, primarily, to avoid the use of the word "war", which could be politically embarrassing. The Command structure is set out below, and in diagrammatic form in Appendix.

Borneo Security Council (BOSC)

3. The Security Council will comprise the High Commissioner Brunei as chairman, the Director of Operations (Commander British Forces Borneo), political representatives from each territory, police representatives from each territory, the Director of Intelligence and intelligence representatives and a psychological warfare adviser.

4. The Security Council will be responsible to the Committee of the United Kingdom Commissioner-General for SE Asia for the overall direction of Defence measures in the Borneo Territories.

5. In the event of the BOSC meeting in another territory the appropriate Governor will be the chairman of the council.

Borneo Operations Committee (BOC)

6. The Director of Operations will be the chairman of this committee which will comprise representatives of the three services, representatives of the police of the three territories, the Director of Intelligence and psychological warfare adviser. Some of the individuals on this committee would also be members of the Defence Council. Other members should be co-opted as necessary.

7. The Operations Committee will be responsible to the Defence Council for the assessments of intelligence, the planning of operations including psychological warfare, and the co-ordination and allocation of forces.

Headquarters British Forces, Borneo

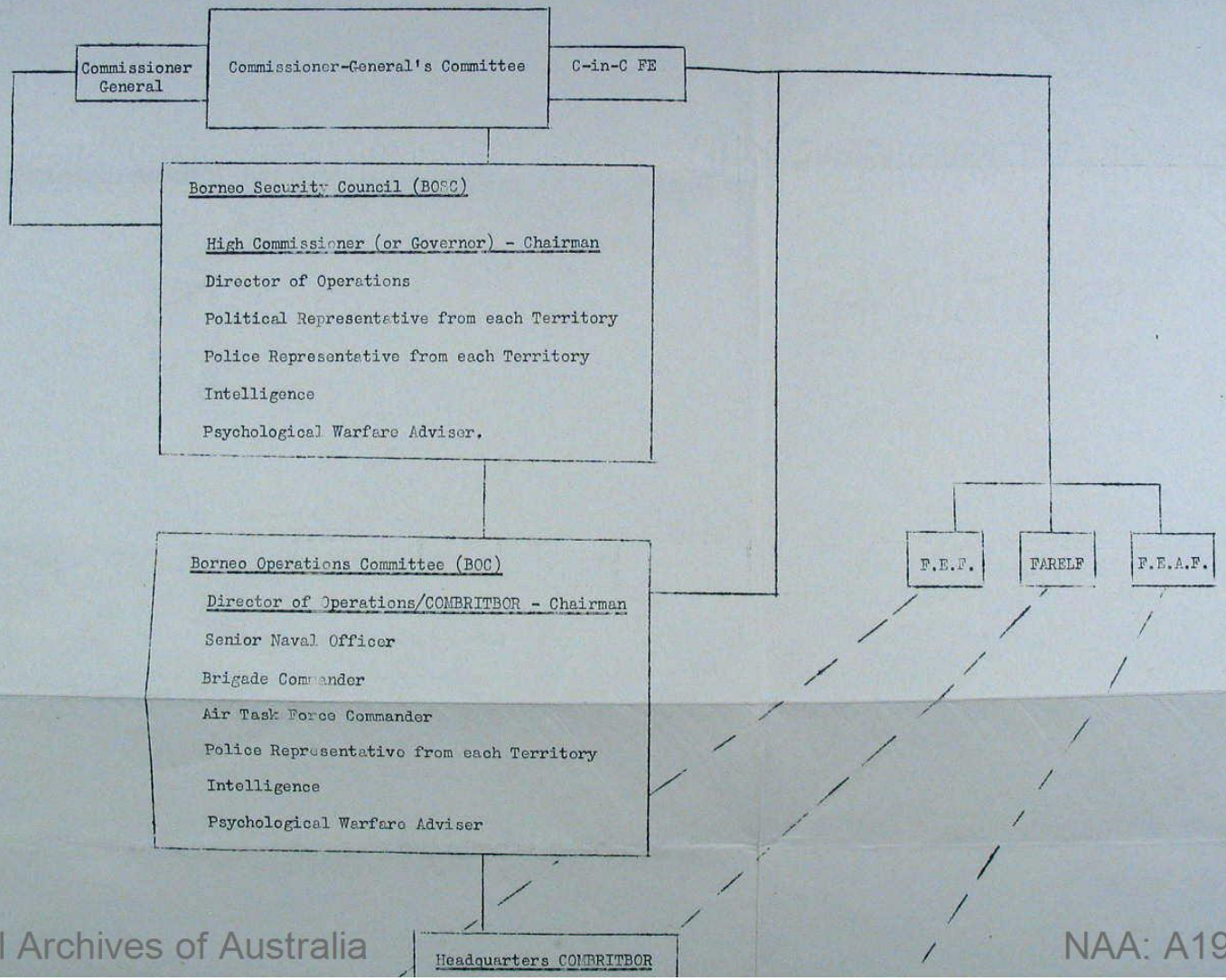
8. This Headquarters will now be situated at Brunei. It will remain a separate Force Headquarters and be built up to enable it to carry out the dual functions of Force/Director of Operations Headquarters. The Joint Operations Centre, Air Transport Operations Centre and Air Support Operations Centre will be part of the Headquarters.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

Appendix to
CINC(FE)(62)12



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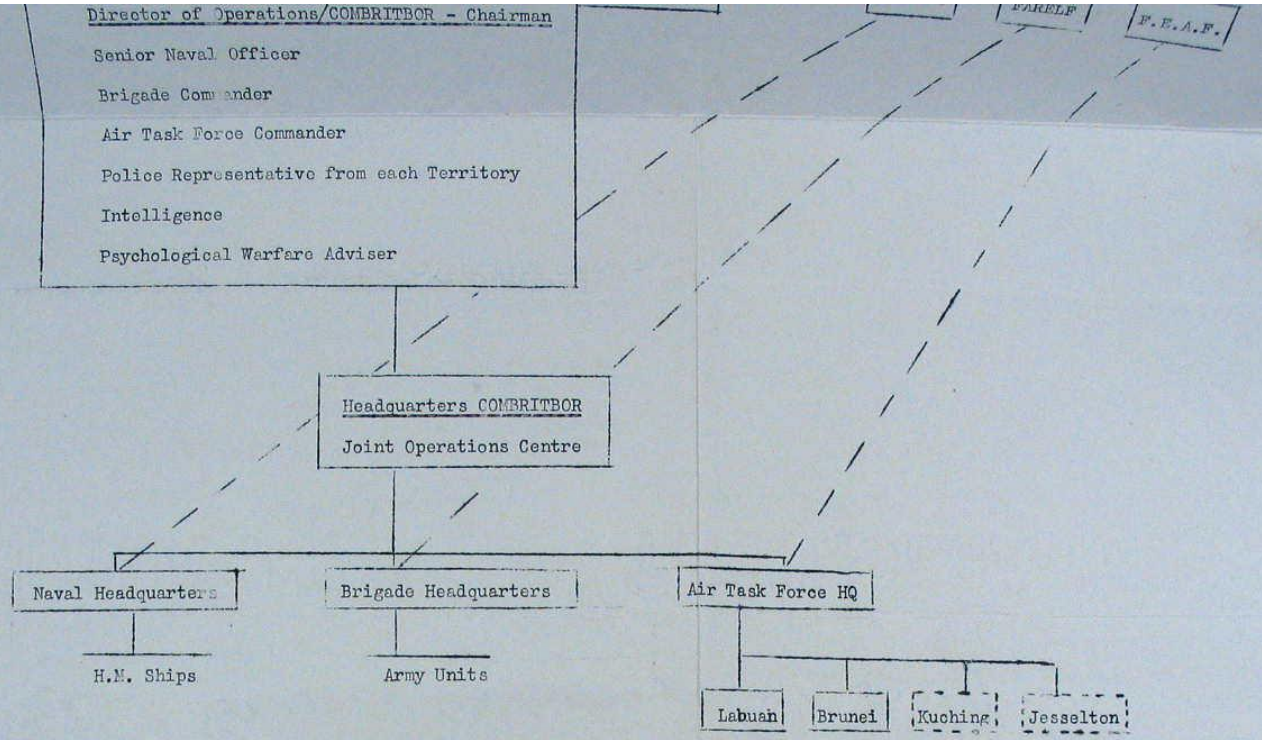
NAA: A1945, 24



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National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 243/5/6

204

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.32210.

TM.

DATED. 20TH DECEMBER, 1962.
1815.
REC'D. 21ST DECEMBER, 1962.
1142.

FROM.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3436. SECRET. PRIORITY.

(PLEASE PASS DJAKARTA, SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA)
REPEATED LONDON 944, U.N. NEW YORK.

INDONESIA AND BRUNEI.

FOLLOWING FROM INGRAHAM (INDONESIAN AFFAIRS) ON 20TH DECEMBER.

2. STATE DEPARTMENT DECIDED ON 19TH DECEMBER TO MAKE DIRECT APPROACH TO INDONESIA WITH AIM OF MAKING CLEAR UNITED STATES POSITION ON BRUNEI.

DEPARTMENT HOPED TO DISSUADE SUKARNO FROM FURTHER STEPS WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO ESCALATION OF BRUNEI AFFAIR AND RESULT IN GENERAL SOUTH-EAST ASIAN FRACAS.

ALTHOUGH DEPARTMENT ESTIMATED THERE WAS LITTLE CHANCE OF CALLING SUKARNO OFF THE SCENT ALTOGETHER, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO BRING ABOUT A PAUSE IN THE FLOW OF PROPAGANDA AND A COOLING-OFF OF TEMPERS SUFFICIENT TO FORESTALL THE ADOPTION BY INDONESIA OF AN IRREVOCABLE POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR AZAHARI'S CAUSE.

THE LONGER ANY LULL IN THE INDONESIAN CAMPAIGN THE LESS BASIS IN FACT THERE WOULD BE FOR RESUMING IT.

3. ACCORDINGLY, JONES WAS INSTRUCTED ON 19TH DECEMBER TO SEE SUKARNO OR FAILING HIM SUBANDRIO AND DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS IN STATING UNITED STATES POSITION.

(A) REVOLT IN BRUNEI WAS VIRTUALLY OVER UNLESS REBELS NOW RECEIVED EXTERNAL SUPPORT.

THEY HAD NEVER RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT FROM PEOPLES OF BRUNEI, SARAWAK OR NORTH BORNEO.

(B) THE ONLY AFTERMATH OF THE REVOLT WOULD BE TO HAMPER THE PROMPT ENDING OF COLONIAL RULE IN THE TERRITORY.

THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TERRITORY WOULD BE THE SECURITY PROBLEM THERE.

EVEN IF THE SECURITY SITUATION WORSENED, THE BRITISH WOULD HAVE THE CAPACITY TO RESTORE ORDER AND IT WAS TO BE HOPED THAT THEY WOULD NOT HAVE TO UNDERTAKE MORE EXTENSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS.

C. THE USA RECOGNISED THE RIGHT OF INDONESIA TO CONCERN ITSELF WITH THE MALAYSIA CONCEPT WHICH WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT ON INDONESIA'S FRONTIERS.

IN RESPECT OF MALAYSIA, HOWEVER, USA DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE SMALL-SCALE BRUNEI REVOLT REFLECTED THE WISHES OF THE TERRITORY'S POPULATION.

JONES COULD SEEK TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER SUKARNO HAD REALLY LOOKED AT THE ESSENTIAL RATIONALE OF THE MALAYSIA PLAN WHICH WAS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF SINGAPORE.

SUKARNO SHOULD RECOGNISE THAT SOLUTION OF THE SINGAPORE PROBLEM WAS IMPORTANT TO INDONESIA AS WELL AS TO OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.

FOR ATTACHED P. BRANCH

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(2).

TM. INWARD CABLEGRAM I.32210.

UNLESS THIS PROBLEM WAS OVERCOME THE SITUATION IN SINGAPORE COULD BE EXPLOITED DANGEROUSLY BY THE COMMUNIST CHINESE.

USA WAS NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE MALAYSIA PLAN BUT SUPPORTED IT AS THE ONLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION FOR SINGAPORE AND THE CHINESE PROBLEM.

4. INGRAHAM EMPHASISED THAT JONES WOULD HAVE CONSIDERERABLE DISCRETION IN USE HE MADE OF ABOVE POINTS.

DEPARTMENT HOWEVER EXPECTED SUKARNO TO BE LEFT WITH VERY CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT USA REGARDED BRUNEI REVOLT AS BEING SETTLED UNLESS INDONESIA INTERFERED, THAT IF IT DID SO IT WOULD BE FIRMLY OPPOSED BY WESTERN POWERS AND SPECIFICALLY BY BRITAIN, AND THAT THE WEST WAS DETERMINED TO PREVENT CREATION OF FURTHER PROBLEMS IN SINGAPORE AND SUPPORTED MALAYSIA FOR THIS PURPOSE.

5. INGRAHAM COMMENTED THAT POINTS IN PARAGRAPH 3B ABOVE REGARDING BRITISH ROLE IN EVENT OF EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN BRUNEI WOULD OF COURSE BE PUT WITH SOME SUBTLETY.

HE SAID THAT BRITISH EMBASSY HAD WARNED STATE DEPARTMENT ON 19TH DECEMBER THAT QUESTION OF BRUNEI MIGHT COME UP DURING CURRENT NASSAU TALKS AND WE GATHERED THAT DEPARTMENT DERIVED SOME SATISFACTION FROM BEING IN POSITION TO DESCRIBE TO EMBASSY THE NATURE OF INSTRUCTIONS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN SENT TO JONES.

6. WE SAID WE BELIEVED YOU WOULD WARMLY WELCOME BOTH FACT AND FORM OF UNITED STATES INITIATIVE AND AGAIN DREW ATTENTION TO MINISTER'S STATEMENT OF 14TH DECEMBER.

7. PHILIPPINES HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF APPROACH TO BE MADE BY JONES.

8. INGRAHAM AND SUBSEQUENTLY MOSCOTTI (MALAYA AND SINGAPORE AFFAIRS) WERE NOT DECIDED ABOUT INTERPRETATION TO BE PLACED ON SUKARNO'S REPORTED STATEMENT OF 19TH DECEMBER CALLING FOR INDONESIAN SYMPATHY FOR BRUNEI REBELS.

ON BALANCE THEY WERE INCLINED TO DRAW COMFORT FROM FACT THAT AT THIS STAGE AT LEAST SUKARNO APPEARED TO BE OFFERING ONLY "SYMPATHY".

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M's.

21ST DECEMBER, 1962.

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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INWARD CABLEGRAM

159

SRG

I. 32214

DATED. 20TH DECEMBER, 1962
1940

FROM:

REC'D. 21ST DECEMBER, 1962
1255

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

UN2058. CONFIDENTIAL.

WASHINGTON FOR INFORMATION, OTTAWA SAV.1250, LONDON SAV. 1383.

BRUNEI.

INDONESIAN MISSION HERE HAS GIVEN CERTAIN MISSIONS AN AIDE MEMOIRE SEEKING SUPPORT FOR HAVING BRUNEI CONSIDERED EARLY IN JANUARY BY THE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTEEN.

WE HAVE RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION FROM THE UNITED STATES MISSION WHICH WAS TOLD BY THE PHILIPPINES WHO HAVE RECEIVED SUCH AN AIDE MEMOIRE.

THE UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM AND OURSELVES HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN A COPY OR INFORMED BY INDONESIA.

I GAVE PALAR (PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA) AN OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION IT TO ME TONIGHT BUT HE SAID NOTHING.

2. HITHERTO THE FEELING AMONG MEMBERS OF THE OLD COMMITTEE OF SEVENTEEN HAS BEEN TO HAVE A SHORT MEETING LATE IN DECEMBER TO ELECT OFFICE BEARERS AND TO FIX THE DATE OF THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING.

THERE IS A WIDESPRESD VIEW INCLUDING MANY AFRO-ASIANS THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD NOT MEET IN JANUARY.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
MIN. & DEPT TERRITORIES
P.M's

21ST DECEMBER, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

MT I.32237

FROM. DATED 20TH DECEMBER, 1962

REC'D 21ST DECEMBER, 1962

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3445. CONFIDENTIAL.

(TO PASS TO DJAKARTA, SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA) REPEATED LONDON 945, AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS.

PHILIPPINES AND BORNEO TERRITORIES.

MOSCOTTI (MALAYA AND SINGAPORE AFFAIRS) TOLD US 20TH DECEMBER THAT DEPARTMENT CONTINUED TO RECEIVE ENCOURAGING INDICATIONS THAT PELAEZ WAS DRAWING AWAY FROM INVOLVEMENT IN BRUNEI AFFAIR.

MACAPAGAL HOWEVER APPEARED TO BE LEAVING OPEN AT LEAST HIS PUBLIC POSITION.

STATE DEPARTMENT UNDERSTOOD THAT PHILIPPINES WAS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING WHAT ATTITUDE IT WOULD ADOPT IN EVENT OF INDONESIAN REFERENCE OF MATTER TO COMMITTEE OF 24.

MOSCOTTI SPECULATED THAT MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON SPEED WITH WHICH SECURITY SITUATION WAS RESTORED AND ON WHETHER INDONESIAN PROPAGANDA BARRAGE WAS INTENSIFIED.

SHOULD INDONESIA BECOME PUBLICLY MORE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO REBELS, MOSCOTTI THOUGHT PHILIPPINES WOULD PROBABLY SHY AWAY FROM SUPPORT OF AN INDONESIAN INITIATIVE IN COMMITTEE OF 24.

2. REGARDING MALAYSIA, MOSCOTTI THOUGHT MACAPAGAL HAD NOT YET REALLY COME TO GRIPS WIGH PURPOSE OF PLAN.

HE APPEARED IN A STATEMENT ON 19TH DECEMBER TO HAVE REITERATED HIS CONCERN THAT COMMUNIST CHINESE WOULD AS A RESULT OF MALAYSIA GAIN ACCESS TO BORNEO AND REMAINDER OF ISLAND CHAIN.

U.S.A. WAS ATTEMPTING TO CONTINUE ITS EDUCATIVE EFFORTS BY POINTING OUT TO MACAPAGAL THAT EMIGRATION OF CHINESE FROM SINGAPORE WOULD BE TIGHTLY CONTROLLED AND MOVEMENTS CLOSELY LIMITED.

3. STATE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED TO BE CONCERNED THAT BRITISH WERE BEING TOO RELAXED IN THEIR APPROACH TO TALKS WITH PHILIPPINES ABOUT NORTH BORNEO.

PHILIPPINE CONGRESS WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET MID-JANUARY AND THERE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE CONSIDERABLE PLAYING TO THE GALLERY IN RELATION TO NORTH BORNEO CLAIM AS WELL AS BRUNEI AFFAIR AND MALAYSIA.

IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT VERY EARLY PROGRESS BE MADE TOWARDS DISPOSAL OF PHILIPPINE CLAIM ANDU.S.A. HAD URGED THIS ON THE BRITISH.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

200

157

MEH

O.23307

TO:

Dated: 21st December, 1962
2100

Australian High Commission,
LONDON...4584

Repeated:

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE...611 (for Jockel)

1. Malaysia
2. Brunei

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR...551 (for Critchley)

SECRET.

For Eastman from Barwick.

I am convinced as a result of my visit to Manila that the Philippines partly through their own fault and partly through British obduracy have got themselves into a position from which we must help to extricate them. Please take an early opportunity to put this problem again to the Foreign Office and suggest that they should consider the following steps.

(a) Urgent instructions to Pilcher on the talks in London. The delay here is seriously exacerbating the whole situation.

(b) Some indication to the Philippine Government that the British will urge on the Sultan of Brunei the necessity for immediate constitutional reforms.

(c) A statement in London and Kuala Lumpur that there is no intention of bustling Brunei into Malaysia.

(d) Consideration might be given to assuring the Philippines Government privately that no premature withdrawal of British forces from Brunei is contemplated This would help to reassure the Philippines Government which still fears that there may be Indonesian intervention or at least that the Indonesians are giving, and will continue to give, sanctuary to the rebels across the border. The British could justify retention of forces for some time to come on the possibility of guerrila action, and this should blunt criticism which must be expected from Indonesia that Brunei has now become a European colonial question.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

199

SECRET

-2- 0.23307

2. We believe (b) and (c) would help the Philippines administration.

3. For Critchley and Jockel. Grateful your comments.

MIN. & DEPT E.A. (3030/2/1)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

22nd December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

156 198

MT

I.32199

FROM:

Dated 20th December, 1962
1810
Rec'd 21st December, 1962
0900

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

456. SECRET.

Repeated Djakarta 11, Singapore 35.

From Critchley.

Brunei - Indonesian support for Rebels.

Sukarno's call yesterday on Indonesians to support the Brunei rebellion was not unexpected but the Malayans and Razak said today he did not expect that there would be any official reaction at this stage. Malayans are still awaiting reply to the protest about Subandrio's attack on the Tunku.

2. According to Tory (United Kingdom High Commissioner) Selkirk is under instructions to go to Djakarta to see Sukarno. He is still clearing the lines of what he should say but can be expected to point out that although Indonesians may not be aware of it, continuation of their present policy of interference is extremely dangerous and could lead to world war.

2.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

21st December, 1962

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
FOR ATTENTION OF

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

197

155

MT

I.32231

FROM:

Dated 20th December, 1962

Rec'd 21st December, 1962

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

Brunei file

U/N. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei meeting referred to in paragraph 3 of our telegram 993 unanimously approved the setting up of a national committee for solidarity with the North Kalimantan people. The meeting was attended by representatives of forty three political and mass organisations.

2. Antara reported on 19th December that the committee in its first plenary session established a presidium of 117 members and an executive body consisting of 63. Sections of the executive involving campaigns units of action and supplies are being established. It was announced that the second plenary session would be held on 21st December due to the pressing situation in North Kalimantan at present.

3. Antara reported that in its first public statement of 19th December the committee said that it would exert all efforts within its ability to marshal and organise the Indonesian peoples support, material as well as moral, for the North Kalimantan revolution including volunteers for all fields of activity. It urged the Indonesian Government to officially recognise the state of North Kalimantan led by Prime Minister Azahari and expressed the hope that this Government would soon appoint its permanent representative in Djakarta. U Thant was called upon to make all possible efforts to enable Azahari to bring North Kalimantan case to the United Nations. The United Kingdom and Malaya were asked to stop sending troops to North Kalimantan for the purpose of suppressing the peoples struggle for freedom. The Committee also demanded shelving of the Malaysia idea which clearly represents a bulwark of neo-colonialism in South East Asia. All progressive peoples of the world were urged to have the mass killings and mass oppression of the North Kalimantan people stopped.

4. Indonesian Herald news analysis of 19th December cited at length reasons why there was a high probability that the Indonesian Government barring unexpected developments in British policy may bring the North Kalimantan issue before the United Nations which was a potential threat to the peace. It was claimed that the rebels are turning to bitter jungle warfare, that a guerilla war would necessitate Indonesia to institute a kind of emergency watch along her borders and that this would divert the Nations resources from economic reconstruction as well. Such a situation would lead Kalimantans neighbours to send volunteers. The article asked why can't the British now accept a fully independent North Kalimantan in which its economic interests are fully protected.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.F. BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

196

I.32231

5. During the last day or so editorial attention has not been concentrated on the Brunei revolt.

6. Suluh Indonesia and Merdeka of 18th December quoted news agency reports of Sir Garfield Barwick's press conference of 17th December under headings Australian Hercules transports British soldiers to Borneo, and Barwick suffers from Indonesian phobia.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

21st December, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

154 195

KA

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.32251

Dated: 20th December, 1962
1601

FROM:

Rec'd: 21st December, 1962
1535

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

1014. UNCLASSIFIED.

Borneo Revolt

Our telegram 996.

Serbaud has forwarded to Embassy copy of letter and attachment dated 13th December addressed to Dr. Subandrio.

Following is translation of relevant passage:

"The leadership of the Air Transport Workers Union protests against the suppression being carried out by the British Government which is using supporters of Malaysia, the Indian Army and Australian Military equipment against the revolution of the North Borneo people. The union is ready to carry out actions of solidarity such as boycotting their aircraft which pass through Indonesia if they continue their armed suppression.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT CIVIL AVIATION
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

22nd December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

Decly

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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C12/3429

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~~DE RGMPA 200428~~

R 201110GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPOJE

TO DEFENC CANBERRA

~~BT~~

SECRET

S E C R E T SAC 46 BORNEO SITUATION PD FOLLOWING ARE E~~CEEEEEEE NRE~~ EXTRACTS FROM FARELF SIGNAL TO THE WAR OFFICE AS AT 191400Z PD TAWAU AREA PD 017 DEC CHAIRMAN INDONESIAN ASSOCIATION STATED HE HAS SUPPLIED FOOD TO REBELS WHO ARE EQUIPPED WITH AUTOMATIC RIFLES AND WIRELESS SETS PD CHAIRMAN BELIEVES REBELS ARE PLANNING TO ATTACK TAWAU WITH SIMULTANEOUS UPRISING BY LOCAL INDONESIAN POPULATION PD DETAILS OF ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE UNCONFIRMED REPEAT UNCONFIRMED PD FOLLOWING EXTRACTS FROM C-IN-C TO LONDON AT 192155Z PD BRUNEI AND ~~NOTEEEEEEEE AND~~ NORTH SARAWAK PD REBEL MOVEMENT SOUTH TO ESCAPE SECURITY FORCES APPEARS TO BE CONTINUING PD MINOR CONTACTS REPORTED

PAGE TW~~O RGMPA 200428~~

THROUGHOUT AREA PD SEVERAL DESERTED CAMPS SOME CONTAINING WEAPONS AND ONE FOR TRAINING PURPOSES DISCOVERED PD REBEL MORALE LOW PD SOME REBEL LEADERS CAPTURED PD WEAPONS MAINLY SHOTGUNS AND CARTRIDGES PD ALSO GRENNER GUNS AND TEAR GAS GRENADES EX POLICE STATIONS PD MAJORITY OF ONE ~~REEEEEEEEE ONE~~ REEL GANG WERE EX POLICE PD OTHER AREAS NOTHING NEW TO REPORT PD WITHFURTHER REFERENCE TO SAC.44 THE REDEPLOYMENT OUTLINED IS BEING RE-EXAMINED OWING TO THE TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM PD REFERENCE SAC.39 GENERAL WALKER DEPARTED SINGAPORE 19 DEC TO ASSUME APPOINTMENT COMBRITFOR

BT

~~C WB PROBLEM TRANSPORTATION~~

20/0805Z

Defence

Dep (Maj Wly)

Mr. Landau 24/12

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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1962 DEC 19 22:59

C12/3416

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~~BR RGYDXA~~

~~DE RGMPA 190473~~

R 191225GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

~~BT~~

SECRET

S E C R E T SAC.44 (A) BORNEO SITUATION PD FOLLOWING MAJOR CHANGES IN DISPOSITIONS AS AT 190430GH PD HQ 44 CDO KUCHING TO JESSELTON PD C COMPANY 40 CDO KUCHING TO TAWAU PD B COMPANY 40 CDO KUCHING TO JESSELTON AND LATER TO TAKE OVER FROM ~~COMPANY~~ ~~E E E E E E E E~~ FROM COMPANY QOH AT SANDAKAN DP HQ 3 CDO BDE LABUAN TO KUCHING PD COMPANY 1/2 GR AND COMPANY QOH FROM NORTH BORNEO TO REJOIN UNITS IN BRUNEI PD A COMPANY 40 CDO INSALBION IN DIRECT SUPPORT 99 BDE PD B COMPANY 40 CDO REMAINS KUCHING PD

~~BT~~

E ~~E E E E E PD~~ SPECIAL BRANCH INTERROGATION CONTINUES PD FIVE POLITICAL AND FOUR MILITARY ~~LEAG E E E E E E E E~~ ~~MILITARY~~ LEADERS BEING QUESTIONED PD

~~BT~~

~~C W/ A SITUATION PD~~

~~C W/B C PD~~

19/0745Z

Copies sent to
CDS
DIC

Paraphrase NOT required — NO undassified reply other than one of the following:—
YES. AGREED. CONCUR. COMMENTED.
NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY.
ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

Secret

Defence

DMI (Maj Wingate)

1. CNS 20/12
2. FAS(B) 21/12
3. A/S(OP)
4. DAS(OP)
5. Mr. Macken
6 file

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

6

192

151

CSE 006

1962 DEC 19 23:04

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~~RR RGYBXA~~

~~DE RGMPA 190474~~

SECRET

C12/3417

R 191200GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

Chiefs

Defence

DMI (Maj Whyte)

~~BT~~

SECRET SAC.44 BORNEO SITUATION PD INTELLIGENCE ASPECTS PD

ONE PD JICFE 188 OF 180855Z PASSED TOBDLS CANBERRA FOR SEC

JIC(AUST) AS RESULT OF JIC(FE) MEETING 18 DEC TO REVIEW ~~JIC FE~~

~~E E E E E E E REVIEW~~ JICFE 185 OF 121200Z ALSO TO BDLS PD

COPY OF JICFE188 IN TODAYS BAG PD TWO PD A SPECIAL STUDY

GROUP CS BEING ESTABLISHED AT ONCE UNDER AUSPICES OF JIC(FE)

TO EXAMINE ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATON CONCERNING BORNEO TERRITORIES

PD THIS ACTION TAKEN AS NORMAL INTELLIGENCE STAFFS FULLY

COMMITTED PD AIM PD TO ANALYSE AVAILABLE MATERIAL ON BORNEO

TERRITORIES AND TO PREPARE TUDIES FOR JIC(FE) PD SPECIAL TASKS PD

~~C W/A JIC(FE) MEETING~~

~~CW/A TO BDLS~~

~~CW/A SPECAIAL TASKS~~

PAGE TWO ~~DE RGMPA 190474~~

FIRST TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW THE ~~SIXE E E E E E E E THE~~ SIZE

NATURE STRENGTH AND ORGANISATION OF TNKU PD

SECOND TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS ~~EVIDEC~~ EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN

COMPLICITY INSTIGATION AND SUPPORT IN THE PAST AT PRESENT

AND IN THE FUTURE TD TO STUDY LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS IN SARAWAK

PD ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY FUTURE PATTERN OF REBEL OPERATIONS

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

TERRITORIES AND TO PREPARE TUDIES FOR JIC(FE) PD SPECIAL TASKS PD

~~C W/A JIC(FE) MEETING~~

~~CW/A TO BDLS~~

~~CW/A SPECAIAL TASKS~~

PAGE TWO ~~DE RGMPA 190474~~

FIRST TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW THE ~~SIXE E E E E E E E THE~~ SIZE

NATURE STRENGTH AND ORGANISATION OF TNKU PD

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COMPLICITY INSTIGATION AND SUPPORT IN THE PAST AT PRESENT

AND IN THE FUTURE TD TO STUDY LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS IN SARAWAK

PD ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY FUTURE PATTERN OF REBEL OPERATIONS

(B) ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL/MILITARY ASPECTS OF CAUSES OF THE

INSURRECTION

~~BT~~

~~C W/A ASSESS EVIDENCE~~

~~C W/A OF INDONESIAN~~

19/0745Z

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Paraphrase NOT required—NO unidentified reply other than one of the following—
YES. ADVISED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED.
NO. NOT ADVISED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY.
NO KNOWLEDGE (NCK). NOT APPROVED.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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1962 DEC 19 12:30

C10/3414

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RR RGYDA

DE RGMPA 190047+

R 191215GW

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

SECRET

43(?)

S E C R E T SAC 1 BORNEO SITUATION PD FOLLOWING EXTRACTS FROM SITREP (SEACOS 94) AS AT 180500Z FROM C-IN-C TO LONDON PD ONE PD BRUNEI AND NORTH SARAWAK PD MANY REPORTS OF MINOR CONTACT WITH REBELS THROUGHOUT AREA OF OPERATIONS PD THERE IS EVIDENCE OF REBEL MOVE SOUTH FROM LABU AND SOUTHWARDS ALONG TUTONG AND TEMBOURONG RIVERS PD BAND OF REBELS AND ASSOCIATES ESTIMATED 1500 BEING ROUNDED UP SOUTH OF MIRI PD POLICE AND TROOPS HELPED BY HELICOPTERS ARE CARRYING OUT CONCENTRATED SEARCH FOR ARMS AND SUSPECTS IN GENERAL AREAS BEKENU CMM ~~KOAK~~ LOAK BAY CMM TEMPUAN TELISA AND SERIA PD ONE SENTRY AT SERIA WOUNDED BY SNIPER PD PRISONERS INCLUDE A LOCAL C ~~WA CMM LOKE E E E E E E CMM LOAK~~

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

PAGE TWO RGMPA 190475

COMMANDER CMM MANY WEAPONS RECOVERED AND SOME DOCUMENTS CAPTURED PD THERE ARE REPORTS OF LOW REBELSMORALE AND THAT BOTH REBELS AND LOCAL POPULATION IN SOME AREAS ARE VERY SHORT OF FOOD PD TWO PD SOUTH SARAWAK PD PATROLS CONTINUE TOWARES BORDER PD NOTHING FURTHER TO REPORT PD THREE RAF EFFORT PD RATE AND SCALE OF EFFORT OF AIRLIFT HAS SLOWED WITH REDUCED DEMAND PD THREE BELVEDERE HELICOPTERS

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

BT

S E C R E T SAC 43(-) BORNEO SITUATION PD FOLLOWING EXTRACTS FROM SITREP (SEACOS 94) AS AT 180500Z FROM C-IN-C TO LONDON PD ONE PD BRUNEI AND NORTH SARAWAK PD MANY REPORTS OF MINOR CONTACT WITH REBELS THROUGHOUT AREA OF OPERATIONS PD THERE IS EVIDENCE OF REBEL MOVE SOUTH FROM LABU AND SOUTHWARDS ALONG TUTONG AND TEMBOURONG RIVERS PD BAND OF REBELS AND ASSOCIATES ESTIMATED 1500 BEING ROUNDED UP SOUTH OF MIRI PD POLICE AND TROOPS HELPED BY HELICOPTERS ARE CARRYING OUT CONCENTRATED SEARCH FOR ARMS AND SUSPECTS IN GENERAL AREAS BEKENU CMM ~~KOAK~~ LOAK BAY CMM TEMPUAN TELISA AND SERIA PD ONE SENTRY AT SERIA WOUNDED BY SNIPER PD PRISONERS INCLUDE A LOCAL C ~~WA CMM LOKE E E E E E CMM LOAK~~

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:—
YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED.
NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY.
ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

~~PAGE TWO RGMPA 190475~~

COMMANDER CMM MANY WEAPONS RECOVERED AND SOME DOCUMENTS CAPTURED PD THERE ARE REPORTS OF LOW REBELSMORALE AND THAT BOTH REBELS AND LOCAL POPULATION IN SOME AREAS ARE VERY SHORT OF FOOD PD TWO PD SOUTH SARAWAK PD PATROLS CONTINUE TOWARES BORDER PD NOTHING FURTHER TO REPORT PD THREE RAF EFFORT PD RATE AND SCALE OF EFFORT OF AIRLIFT HAS SLOWED WITH REDUCED DEMAND PD THREE BELVEDERE HELICOPTERS FLEW NONSTOP TO KUCHING AND ARE CONTINUING TO BRUNEI

BT

~~C WA CONTINUE TOWARDS~~

~~19/0605Z~~

Secretary
Defence
DMI (Maj Wkgp)

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

149 190

DW

I.32113

DATED. 19TH DECEMBER, 1962
1825

FROM:

REC'D. 20TH DECEMBER, 1962
1531

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

UN2036. CONFIDENTIAL.

WASHINGTON FOR INFORMATION.
REPEATED OTTAWA SAV.1231, LONDON DAV.1363.

BRUNEI.

THE INDONESIAN MISSION (PALAR) TALKED TODAY TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION (BINGHAM) ABOUT BRUNEI, AND PERSISTED WITH ITS DESIRE TO HAVE THE MATTER CONSIDERED IN THE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTEEN IN JANUARY.

BINGHAM EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD PROBABLY NOT MEET FOR A WHILE AND THAT IT MIGHT BE SPRING BEFORE IT GOT DOWN TO WORK.

PALAR DID NOT REACT TO THIS IN A VERY PRESSING WAY AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE THE IMPRESSION HERE THAT THEY MIGHT LET THINGS RIDE FOR A WHILE.

MY OWN VIEW IS RATHER THAT A LOT WILL DEPEND UPON HOW QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY THE BRITISH CAN GET THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL IN BRUNEI ITSELF.

IF UNREST CONTINUES, THE INDONESIANS ARE UNLIKELY TO REFRAIN FROM EXPLOITING THE POSSIBILITIES HERE.

SINCE THE TROUBLE FIRST BEGAN WE HAVE BEEN HELPED TACTICALLY HERE BY THE EXISTENCE OF A NEWSPAPER STRIKE IN NEW YORK, WITH THE RESULT THAT MOST REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOT FULLY CONSCIOUS OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN BRUNEI.

PLIMSOLL.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M's.

20TH DECEMBER, 1962.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

189

IM

INWARD CABLEGRAM I.32123

FROM:

Dated: 19th December, 1962.
1950

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

Rec'd: 20th December, 1962.
1630

SECRET

1008 SECRET.

Repeated Kuala Lumpur 9 (Canberra please repeat Manila for Minister.)

Brunei - Indonesian policy.

While it is to early to give any final prediction about the future course of Indonesian policy certain broad trends appear to be emerging.

(a) The broad objective of Indonesia's policy seems to be to prevent the coming into being of Malaysia. Propaganda here invariably fails to distinguish between the position of Brunei and that of the other North Borneo territories and endeavours to create the impression that Azahari is the leader of a popular movement against Malaysia which embraces the whole of British Borneo. Malaysia is said to be a creation of British imperialism and the Tunku, Britain's willing stooge in the implementation of the plan. Seen from here the Tunku by his illconsidered statements has played into Indonesia's hands. There are signs that Indonesia is now going to embark on a deliberate campaign to discredit him in the eyes of Afro-Asian States and the people of Malaya, justified on the grounds that he has "sworn to launch a private crusade of slander and vilification against the Republic of Indonesia".

(b) Indonesia is now committed to very firm moral support for the Brunei rebels and Azahari and has thoroughly prepared the ground for more positive action. Overt military support is however unlikely although if some semblance of military opposition persists in North Borneo, Indonesian "volunteers" may give assistance. Presumably clandestine support will be stepped up. The Indonesians will probably act cautiously though since if it could be proved that they were behind the rebel movement then the usefulness of the political tactics which they seem to prefer would be considerably diminished. At this stage it would hardly serve Indonesia's interests to be driven into a frontal conflict with the British.

(c) Indonesia appears to be willing to leave the initiatives in respect of more direct forms of political support for Azahari to the Philippines which may be tempted to push Azahari's case in order to prevent Indonesia gaining an exclusive influence over him. For the time being it would seem to suit Indonesia to have the main pressure against Malaysia come from the Philippines. Coming from a pro-Western and anti-Communist country this could raise doubts among Western countries about the validity of the Malaysia concept. In the long term Indonesia is no doubt reasonably confident that if Malaysia is stymied the Borneo territories will ultimately fall under her influence and perhaps, direct control.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM I.32123

(d) Given Indonesia's anti Colonialist and anti-Western position and her professed fear of encirclement "by old established powers" and in this case, their stooges, we can hardly expect any other attitude and I would think we will indeed be fortunate if support for Azahari does not in the long run take more active forms. In Indonesian terms such activity could in no sense be expansionist. The same will apply to Portuguese Timor.

Shann.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

20th December, 1962.

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

187

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MEH

I·32055

FROM:

Dated: 19th December, 1962
1530
Rec'd: 19th December, 1962
1850

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR

454. UNCLASSIFIED Brunei

Following statement issued in Kuala Lumpur last night.

"The Government of the Federation of Malaya has studied the statements made by Dr. Subandrio in Singapore on December 15th and the Cabinet has decided to make a formal protest to the Indonesian Government. It is not intended at this stage to disclose the contents of the protest. The Government's of the Federation of Malaya would wish to make it clear that at no stage has it made any statement against the Government of Indonesia implicating that Government with the armed rebellion in Brunei.

It was, however, drawn attention to the fact that certain elements and parties in Indonesia on their own admission had encouraged and even assisted Azahari and his clique in this abortive insurrection. It is unfortunate that Dr. Subandrio should have spoken the way he did. The Government of the Federation of Malaya has taken very strong exception to his statement".

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

20th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

DW

I.31979

FROM.

DATED. 18TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1915

REC'D. 19TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1606

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK.

UN2022. CONFIDENTIAL.

WASHINGTON FOR INFORMATION, OTTAWA SAV.1222, LONDON SAV.1354.

BRUNEI.

YOU WILL NOTICE FROM OUR TELGRAM 2007 THAT THE FINAL SENTENCE OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATE'S STATEMENT ON THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL REPORT WAS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SITUATION IN BRUNEI SHOULD BE BROUGHT IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY.

THE PERMAMENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA (PALAR) HAS TOLD THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYA (ONG) THAT IT WILL NOT TAKE THE MATTER ANY FURTHER AT THIS SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUT IT WILL TRY TO HAVE BRUNEI CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTEEN (NOW TWENTY-FOUR) EARLY IN JANUARY.

PALAR HAS TOLD THE SAME THING TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION.

PLIMSOLL.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M's.

19TH DECEMBER, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION B.D. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

145

SRG

I. 31970

DATED. 18TH DECEMBER, 1962
1940

FROM:

REC'D. 19TH DECEMBER, 1962
1439

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3406. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

(PLEASE PASS SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, DJAKARTA, AND MANILA)

REPEATED U.N. NEW YORK, LONDON 936.

BRUNEI.

BELL (DIRECTOR SOUTHWEST PACIFIC) WITH WHOM WE DISCUSSED BRUNEI SITUATION AND ITS WIDER RAMIFICATIONS ON 18TH DECEMBER SAID STATE DEPARTMENT HAD "GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE" THAT INDONESIA WAS SEEKING TO PUT BRUNEI QUESTION BEFORE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTEEN FORTHWITH AS A COLONIAL QUESTION.

STATE DEPARTMENT WAS DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS TO STEVENSON TO COUNTER SUCH A MOVE.

WE SUGGESTED THAT STEVENSON BE ASKED TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH PLIMSOLL ON THIS ISSUE AND IT WAS AGREED THIS WOULD BE USEFUL.

2. BELL SAID OPINION OF MEMBERS OF UNITED STATES MISSION IN NEW YORK WAS THAT INDONESIA MIGHT HAVE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN GETTING COMMITTEE CONVENED AT THIS STAGE WITH ONLY 4 DAYS OF THE SESSION REMAINING AND WITH COMMITTEE ITSELF IN PROCESS OF RECONSTITUTION.

MOREOVER, THERE WAS NO CERTAINTY THAT COMMITTEE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HEARING ABOUT BRUNEI - FOR INSTANCE DATO ONG (MALAYAN AMBASSADOR TO U.S.A. AND U.N.) WAS OF OPINION THAT INDONESIAN MOVE WOULD GET NOWHERE., HE BASED HIS VIEW PARTLY ON FACT THAT AT A MEETING OF COMMONWEALTH REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK AT WHICH MALAYAN VIEWS ON BURNEI AND MALAYSIA HAD BEEN PUT FORWARD EVEN GHANA HAD SEEMED UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHETIC.

3. BELL SAID INSTRUCTIONS TO STEVENSON WOULD PROBABLY CONTAIN INTER ALIA THE ARGUMENTS CONTEMPLATED FOR TUNKU'S DRAFT OF PUBLIC STATEMENT BY SULTAN OF BRUNEI (PARA.5 OF KUALA LUMPUR'S 451 ON WHICH BALDWIN HAD REPORTED SEPARATELY.

BELL ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN HIS VIEW THIS STATEMENT DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH AND OMITTED SOME POWERFUL POINTS WHICH WOULD BE INCLUDED IN INSTRUCTIONS BEING DRAFTED FOR STEVENSON.

ONE POINT WAS THAT TUNKU'S DRAFT SPOKE OF INDEPENDENCE FOR BRUNEI HAVING BEEN "ALREADY ASSURED," BUT, IN FACT, BRUNEI WAS ALREADY ENJOYING (RATHER THAN "ALREADY ASSURED OF") PRETTY WELL COMPLETE SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THIS WAS PERHAPS A MORE ATTRACTIVE POINT TO MAKE PUBLICLY.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

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CONFIDENTIAL

SRG I. 31970

ANOTHER POINT WAS THAT AZAHARI'S ATTEMPTED COUP HAD BEEN AGAINST HIS OWN MONARCH RATHER THAN AGAINST A COLONIAL POWER- THIS RESULTED FROM BRUNEI'S STATUS AS A VIRTUALLY SELF-GOVERNING PROTECTORATE.

ANOTHER POINT WAS THAT AZAHARI CLAIMED TO REPRESENT ALL OF NORTHERN BORNEO - BUT IN FACT HE ENJOYED NO SUPPORT EXCEPT IN BRUNEI WHICH FORMED ONLY A MINOR PART OF NORTHERN BORNEO.

BELL SAID SUCH ARGUMENTS MIGHT SUBSEQUENTLY BE USED IN COMMITTEE OF SEVENTEEN IF ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT AN INDONESIAN INITIATIVE FAILED.

4. BELL SAID IT WAS CLEAR FROM INDONESIAN ACTIONS (SUCH AS PUBLIC SUPPORT GIVEN AZAHARI) AND WORDS (SUCH AS REMARKS SUKARNO WAS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE MADE TO MACAPAGAL) THAT INDONESIA WISHED TO TORPEDO MALAYSIA.

BELL SPECULATED THAT REASON FOR THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SUKARNO'S BELIEF THAT TUNKU WAS TOO PRO-WESTERN.

HE ALSO AGREED THAT OTHER FACTORS MIGHT BE THE CONTEXT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN PRE-EMINENCE., AND PERHAPS INDONESIAN EXPANSIONISM.

5. BELL SAID ONLY REAL EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO STATE DEPARTMENT SO FAR OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT IN BRUNEI REVOLT WAS THAT A FEW PEOPLE FROM BRUNEI-PERHAPS 200-HAD BEEN TRAINED IN INDONESIA.

IT WAS NOT KNOWN BY WHOM OR WHERE THIS TRAINING HAD BEEN CONDUCTED.

THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT INDONESIA HAD SUPPLIED ARMS, ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE TRAINEES MIGHT QUITE EASILY HAVE ACQUIRED AND TAKEN ARMS BACK WITH THEM.

6. BELL CONSIDERED THAT IMPORTANT POINTS TO WATCH FROM NOW ON WOULD BE WHETHER GUERILLA CAMPAIGN WAS CARRIED ON., IF SO EXTENT OF SUPPORT FROM INDONESIA., AND WHETHER COMMUNIST AND PRO-COMMUNIST GROUPS IN SARAWAK WOULD TAKE UP STRUGGLE.

7. SEE ALSO OUR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING TELEGRAM ON PHILIPPINE ATTITUDE.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

19TH DECEMBER, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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R 181130GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

~~BT~~

S E C R E T SAC40 BRUNEI SIZUATION. ONE. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS. PSYCHOLOGICAL TEAMS WORKING IN BRUNEI AND NORTH SARAWAK IN CONJUNCTION WITH ARMY UNITS ARE HAVING SUCCESSES WITH ARMS SURRENDERS AND ARRESTS OF REBELS. EARLY SUCCESSFUL USE OF VOICE AIRCRAFT HAS NOT BEEN REPEATED AS AMPLIFIER EQUIPMENT UNSERVICEABLE. GROUND LOUD SPEAKER AND AIR DROPPING OF LEAFLETS HAING CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS. C-IN-C IS ATTACHING GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PSY OPS IN THIS PHASE OF OPERATIONS. APPEARS LIKELY THAT REINFORCEMENT FOR PSY OPS MAY BE REQUESTED FROM LONDON. TWO. SITREP AS AT 170500Z. DESPATCHED AT 170955Z. NORTH BORNEO. NO FURTHER

PAGE TWO ~~RGMPA 180595~~

REPORTS FROM TAWAU. RADIO LINK BEING ESTABLISHED AT JESSELTON WOL C W TO COMBRITFOR. BRUNEI AND NORTH SARAWAK. ALL CENTRES OF POPULATION NOW CLEAR OF REBELS. ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES BY AIR DROPPING OF FOOD. ALBION BRUNEI BAY WITH HQ 3 CDO BRIGADE EMBARKED. LCAS DETACHED FOR RIVER OPS. SOUTH SARAWAK. HQ 40 CDO ESTABLISHED KUCHING. PATROLS BEING CARRIED OUT TOWARDS BORDER. WILKESTON A LUNDU. WOOLASTON AT SIBU WITH DETS 40 CDO. ALERT AT PENDING NEAR KUCHING. RAF EFFORT. TOTAL AIRLIFT UP TO 170130Z. SORTIES FLOWN SINGAPORE TO LABUAN/BRUNEI. HASINGS 72, BRISTOL FREIGHTER 20, BRITANNIA 20, HERCULES 7, BEVERLEY 8, VALETTA 6, SHACKLETON 15. ARMY LIFT. PERSONNEL 2,277. LANDROVERS 74. TRAILERS

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

HAING CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS. C-IN-C IS ATTACHING GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PSY OPS IN THIS PHASE OF OPERATIONS. APPEARS LIKELY THAT REINFORCEMENT FOR PSY OPS MAY BE REQUESTED FROM LONDON. TWO.

SITREP AS AT 170500Z. DESPATCHED AT 170955Z. NORTH BORNEO. NO FURTHER

PAGE TWO ~~RCMPA 180505~~

REPORTS FROM TAWAU. RADIO LINK BEING ESTABLISHED AT JESSELTON WOL C W TO COMBRITFOR. BRUNEI AND NORTH SARAWAK. ALL CENTRES OF POPULATION NOW CLEAR OF REBELS. ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES BY AIR DROPPING OF FOOD. ALBION BRUNEI BAY WITH HQ 3 CDO BRIGADE EMBARKED. LCAS DETACHED FOR RIVER OPS. SOUTH SARAWAK. HQ 40 CDO ESTABLISHED KUCHING. PATROLS BEING CARRIED OUT TOWARDS BORDER. WILKESTON A LUNDU. WOOLASTON AT SIBU WITH DETS 40 CDO. ALERT AT PENDING NEAR KUCHING. RAF EFFORT. TOTAL AIRLIFT UP TO 170130Z. SORTIES FLOWN SINGAPORE TO LABUAN/BRUNEI. HASINGS 72, BRISTOL FREIGHTER 20, BRITANNIA 20, HERCULES 7, BEVERLEY 8, VALETTA 6, SHACKLETON 15. ARMY LIFT. PERSONNEL 2,277, LANDROVERS 74, TRAILERS 70, DOGS 13. RAF LIFT

PERSONNEL 636, VEHICLES 20, TRAILERS 3, FREIGHT2 206,547 LBS. THREE.

SITREPS NOW BEING DESPATCHED ONCE DAILY. IN FUTURE SPECIAL ASPECTS ONLY WILL BE REPORTED UNLESSYOU REQUEST OTHERWISE.

~~BT~~

18/1035Z

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

Copied to HCOS HC

SECRET

Defence

DMI (Maj Wright)

→ 1. CL JIC Noted 19/12
2. Mr Peterson
3. Mr Boyce
4. Mr McKay
5. Mr Aspinall

NNNN

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

~~142~~ 180

JPH.

I.31954.

Dated. 18th December 1962.
1630.
Rec'd. 19th December 1962.
0452.

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

Brunei - Indonesian Relations

1002. UNCLASSIFIED.

Our telegrams 993 and 996.

Parliamentary Commission for Foreign Affairs has resolved that the North Kalimantan revolution was a movement of the people there to free themselves from enslavement by colonialism and imperialism and, therefore, deserved the fullest support from all layers of the Indonesian people.

2. According to "Antara", Chairman of Partindo declared on 17th December that his party was ready to assist the revolution in North Kalimantan whether this aid was solicited or unsolicited and with all the consequences entailed.

3. Most recent statements of support from Indonesian organisations have come from K.B.K.I., G.S.B.I., Estate Workers Union, Sarbupri Parkindo (Christian Party), Railway Workers Trade Union (S.B.K.A.)

4. Indonesian "Herald" in editorial of 15th December which reviewed consequences to be drawn from various forms of reaction in South East Asia to the Brunei uprising wrote as follows -

"The fourth conclusion we draw from what has not been said. Contrary to the practice during one unhappy episode in the past we have not heard any unfriendly insinuations and accusations from our neighbour to the South, Australia. This attitude we are inclined to believe constitutes part and parcel of the gradual improvement in the general relationship between our two countries. We must welcome this development more than that. We must prevent this process from any possible interruption in the future. As a nation which will soon be sharing borders with Australia we must in all sense of realism bear in mind that mathematically speaking the probabilities of friction and perhaps misunderstanding between the two neighbours are likely to increase. If we have not already thought of this before the revolt in North Kalimantan certainly warns us to try to foresee the possibilities of the future and taking these hypothetical problems into consideration we must from now on work towards reaching a broad understanding with our Australian neighbour as to how to come to grasp with such eventualities.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE.
P.M.'s

19th December 1963.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANBERRA

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

~~141~~ 179

SECRET

EAP.

0.22980

TO :

Dated : 18th December, 1962.
1800

Australian Mission to the United Nations,
NEW YORK..SAV. 154.

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...SAV.368.

SECRET.

Japanese views on Brunei & Indonesia.

Following is repetition of Savingram No. 47 dated 14th December from Tokyo.

BEGINS..

(Take in text of I.31752).

ENDS.

E.A. (3030/2/1)
DEFENCE

18th December, 1962

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

178

INWARD CABLEGRAM

~~140~~

AM

FROM:

I.31849

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

Sent: 17th December, 1962
1945
Recd: 18th December, 1962
0830

SECRET SECRET SECRET

451. SECRET.

Repeated Singapore 34, Djakarta 10, London 20.

From Critchley.

Brunei Revolt.

This morning I discussed the present situation with the Tunku in the presenceof Baldwin (U.S. Ambassador).

2. The Tunku showed no trace of concern of last week that Indonesia might intervene militarily. He speculated that Indonesians had hoped revolt would be successful so that when Azahari could not find resources to run State they would be ready with personnel to assist and eventually take over but they had been frustrated by failure of revolt.

3. Baldwin said Sukarno had told Macapagal when he had visited the Philippines that he could not tolerate Malaysia. Sukarno had told Macapagal the view that British were withdrawing from area and that Malaysia was unsound because federation would not be able to control Chinese in the Borneo Territories.

4. Baldwin said Azahari was now safely bottled up in Philippines but if Committee of Seventeen called for his presence in New York he could not be stopped and would have wide opportunities for trouble-making in the United Nations. Adlai Stevenson had been told to do what he could to prevent any action by the Committee of Seventeen.

5. I suggested there would be advantages in clear public statement that independence for Brunei was no longer an issue. This would make it more difficult for the Committee of Seventeen to intervene and could also (as last resort) help justify British complaint in Security Council against interferring outside parties (Indonesia). He agreed that such a statement could best come from the Sultan and that it should stress:-

(a) That the revolt had failed and was to all intents finished;

(b) That the rebels claimed they were fighting British colonialism but as Azahari had known independence was already assured.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.R. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

177

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

AM

I.31849

2.

6. The Tunku said he would draft a press statement for Sultan of Brunei and send it to him as matter of urgency today. Both Baldwin and I emphasised importance of ensuring that statement was so worded that it could not be used by Azahari to justify the revolt or his return to Brunei. We also stressed that it should not limit British measures to keep security situation under control.

7. I suggested to Tunku that he should show British statement in advance. He said he was angry with British (my telegram 448)but as Tory and Selkirk were at present in Brunei there should be opportunity for consultation.

8. The Tunku does not expect or seem concerned about early inclusion of Brunei in Malaysia. He told us "let them (Brunei, Malaya) be independent first, they will soon want to join us".

A/MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

18th December, 1962

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

176

Outward Telegram from Commonwealth Relations Office

139

TO: OTTAWA
WELLINGTON
DELHI
KARACHI
COLOMBO
ACCRA
LAGOS
NICOSIA
FREETOWN
DAR ES SALAAM
KINGSTON
PORT OF SPAIN
KAMPALA
SALISBURY

RECEIVED 20 DEC 1962 DEPT. OF DEFENCE CANBERRA

RPTD: CANBERRA
KUALA LUMPUR } (BY AIR MAIL)

(Sent 03.18 hours 13th December 1962)

EN CLAIR

W. No. 693 PRESSE

Repeated Air Mail to Canberra and Kuala Lumpur.

Following is text of Sarawak telegram No. C277 dated 11th December to New York. Begins.

BRUNEI REVOLT

Following are quotations from broadcasts made by party and community leaders on 9th December over Radio Sarawak:

Ong Kee Hui, Chairman of Sarawak United Peoples Party:

"I wish to make it quite clear that our party has nothing to do with this armed revolt. We are pledged to seek political changes but these must be made by constitutional means."

Haji Suut Bin Tahir speaking for Barisan Raayat Jati, Sarawak:

"Barjasa looks upon the action of the Brunei Peoples Party as a most despicable act. We must remain calm and not be easily influenced. We must not listen to rumours. Barjasa asks Government to take measures to preserve peace in Sarawak, but the responsibility to preserve peace lies also upon us the people. Barjasa promises the Government full support in preventing rebellious and treacherous acts against the people."

Ling Beng Siew, President, Sarawak Chinese Association.

"You have already heard that British troops have gone, in accordance with treaty obligation, to the aid of the Sultan of Brunei. I appeal to the members of the Sarawak Chinese Association and the Chinese community throughout

/Sarawak

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

175

Sarawak to keep calm. Have confidence in our able Governor in dealing with the situation. Give every assistance to the Government in combating the rebellious forces."

The Datu Bandar Abang Haji Mustapha, President of Party Negara, Sarawak.

"Our brothers and sisters in the Party Negara, Sarawak fully condemn this most evil act. They pray for the blessing of Almighty God so that those responsible for the rebellion may be punished and peace and order may be restored. The primary policy of the party is to oppose communist activities and elements. We also stand resolutely against any movement which will wreck the peace and order of the country, the people and the Government. Therefore I appeal to all members of Party Negara Sarawak to show loyalty to the Government and to co-operate with it to restore peace and security in the Borneo territories."

Stephen Kalong Ningkan, Secretary General of the United Front.

"We totally condemn the insurrection and political activities of the rebels. Our party is right behind H.M.G. and we are prepared to sacrifice our lives if necessary to restore peace and order."

Temonggong Jugah Anak Barieng, a leader of the Sarawal Alliance.

"I want Ibans, Kenyahs and Kayans, no matter to which party you belong, not to be divided during this critical moment. Listen and adhere to any instruction issued by the Government of Sarawak. We must remain calm. The rebellion in Brunei was started by Inche Azahari. If such a rebellion should begin in Sarawak we must unite with the Government and fight to the last man to defend the people and the country."
Ends.

Copy to:-

C.R.O.	Mr. Golds
	Mr. Bentliff
Foreign Office	Mr. Cable
Colonial Office	Mr. I.H. Harris
C.A.O.	Registry (4)
Dublin	
U.K. Embassy Washington	Mr. O.G. Forster
U.K. Mission to the U.N., New York	Mr. J.A. Scott
Canberra (6)	
Kuala Lumpur (4)	

FAR EAST AND PACIFIC DEPT.
FE 131/36/2

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

174
138

TM. I.31813.

Dated: 17th December, 1962. 2000
Rec'd: 18th December, 1962 0830.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

450. CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed Canberra, repeated Singapore 33, Djakarta 9.

From Critchley.

1. Brunei
~~2. Indonesia~~

Brunei Federation Relations with Indonesia.

Last night Tunku described Subandrio's statement in Singapore (repeated in Djakarta) attacking him for his allegations that Indonesia was involved in the Brunei revolt as serious matter which would be discussed by cabinet. He added that if any action was considered necessary, matter would be taken up through appropriate channels.

2. Asked by the Tunku this morning about Subandrio's statment I said it seemed that Subandro might have wanted to provoke a reaction. If this were so I could only guess at implications but Indonesia might conceivably want to justify a stronger stand in United Nations against Malaysia and in support of Azahari. In any event it seems desirable to avoid hasty reply. If further reply was necessary it could, perhaps, be limited to pointing out that Malayan acusations had been about interference by Indonesian parties and organisations and that it was unnecessary to say anything further because the organisations concerned were continuing publicly to support rebels. I also suggested that since the Indonesian statements appeared to be directed against the Tunku presently rather than against Malaya there could be advantage in having some of his colleagues reply to the Indonesians where necessary.

3. The Tunku agreed. He said it was to avoid being drawn at this stage that he had announced that the matter would be discussed in Cabinet. This could mean anything and no exception could be taken to it.

A/MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M's.

18th December, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR REFERENCE ONLY

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

173

JPH.

I.31843.

Dated. 17th December 1962.
1652.
Rec'd. 18th December 1962.
0055.

PRESS.

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

993. UNCLASSIFIED.

BRUNEI.

President Sukarno reiterated on 16th December that Indonesia sympathised with the struggle of the North Borneo people because we are loyal to the principles of Bandung Conference and also to the Belgrade Conference.

2. P.I.A. reported on 15th December a radio broadcast of 14th December by the Department of Information which said that it regretted very much the accusations levelled by outsiders that Indonesia was helping the rebels. Referring to Tunku Abdul Rahman's accusations, the broadcast said that these were actual provocations. It is a false accusation to say that the sympathy expressed by Indonesia was motivated by the intention to integrate North Kalimantan into Indonesia.

3. In a statement issued on 16th December the Secretary-General of the 1945 Revolutionaries (Harjoto) said that leaders of mass organisations, political parties and prominent figures had been invited to a meeting scheduled for 17th December to discuss the formation of a National Committee on solidarity with the peoples revolution of North Kalimantan. In a nation-wide radio address Harjoto said that the revolution of the people in North Kalimantan under the leadership of their Prime Minister Azahari actually represents a link in the chain of the new emerging forces. Indonesia, being one of the principal initiators of the Bandung Conference, is fully conscious of its obligation to give moral support to the people of North Kalimantan and, of course, to provide men and material when the time is ripe. Harjoto expressed deep regret that Tunku Abdul Rahman had decided to suppress the revolution of the people of North Kalimantan and noted that every act against a revolution for national independence was politically immoral. It was not, surprising, therefore, that the whole Indonesian people have unanimously voiced their solidarity and offered their support to the people of Kalimantan who are struggling for independence under the leadership of Prime Minister Azahari.

4. Virtually all political parties and a number of students, womens and trade union organisations have expressed their support for the North Kalimantan peoples' struggle. The Indonesian Veterans Legion in a letter signed by Veteran Affairs Minister Brigadier General Sambas to the Indonesian Embassy in Manila gave the assurance that the whole of Indonesia's veteran fighters are prepared to help the people of Brunei gain their independence. "Antara" further reported that Sambas has instructed veterans all over Indonesia to make themselves ready for immediate assignment in connection with the Brunei uprising on 16th December.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY

../2..

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

- 2 -

I.31843.

"Antara" reported that a committee in support of the rebellion had been set up in Djakarta under the sponsorship of Radjid B. Djalulludin and F.A. Ahmad and others hailing from North Borneo which had called on citizens of the territories living in Indonesia to unite to help their fellow citizens achieve independence.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE.
P.M.'s

18th December 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEFENCE
248/5/6 FOL. 136 171
FA3(B) 11/12/62

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

MT 0.22874

TO: Dated 17th December, 1962
1500

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....SAV.150

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.363.

SECRET. Brunei Revolt.

Following is repetition of telegram No.308 dated 14th December, from Singapore.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31686) Ends.

E.A. (3032/2/1)
DEFENCE

17th December, 1962

file

SECRET SECRET SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION C.P. MANAGER

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

FO! 170

CONFIDENTIAL

PJ.

O.22866.

Sent: 17th December, 1962.
1100.

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK. ...1038

Repeated:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2651.

Brunei Revolt.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 984 dated 14th December from Djakarta.

Begins:-

(Take in text of I.31687)

Ends.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.(3032/2/1)
DEFENCE

17th December, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR AUTHORISED BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

FOL 34 169

SECRET SECRET SECRET

EAP.

0.22865

Dated : 17th December, 1962.
1000

TO :

Australian Mission to the United Nations,
NEW YORK...1037.

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2650.

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA...975.

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK...969.

Australian High Commission,
WELLINGTON...366.

SECRET.

Brunei Revolt.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 301 dated 15th December from Singapore.

BEGINS...

(Take in text of I.31696).

ENDS...

EA. (3032/2/1)
DEFENCE

17th December, 1962.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

FOI 137

168

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

MT

O.22873

TO:

Dated 17th December, 1962
1400

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....SAV.149

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.362

RESTRICTED.

Brunei.

Following is repetition of telegram No.410 dated 14th December from Manila.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31584).

Ends.

E.A. (3032/2/1)
DEFENCE

17th December, 1962

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARY
FOR ATTENTION A.P. & NUN

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

FOL 132

167

SECRET

MT

0.22875

TO:

Dated 17th December, 1962
1300

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....SAV.151

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.364

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.....SAV. 97

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.....SAV. 56

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.....SAV.111

Brunei.

SECRET.

Following is repetition of savingram No.3 dated 14th December from Singapore.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31558)

Ends.

E.A. (3032/2/1)
DEFENCE

17th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

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FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

JW

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I 31823

DATED. 17TH DECEMBER, 1962, 1540

REC'D. 18TH DECEMBER, 1962, 0200

FROM.

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION,
LONDON.

6178 CONFIDENTIAL.

FROM EXTERNAL.

BRUNEI.

RECENT TELEGRAMS FROM BRITISH EMBASSY MANILA REPORT -

(A) SUKARNO DURING RECENT VISIT GAVE AZAHARI 10,000 DOLLARS, WHICH WERE PAID TO HIS CREDIT WITH TOKYO BANK

(B) ACCORDING TO PHILIPPINES INTELLIGENCE SOURCES COUNSELLOR INDONESIAN EMBASSY HELPED TO DRAFT AZAHARI'S PRESS COMMUNIQUES.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

18TH DECEMBER, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.W. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

130 165

MT 0.22884

TO: Dated 17th December, 1962
1230

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

Australian High Commission,
LONDON.

AP162. UNCLASSIFIED. Brunei Revolt

Savingrams to all other posts except Manila.

Minister issued following statement on 14th December.

Begins:

Revolt in Brunei was attempt to overthrow by force, constitutional government of territory enjoying internal self-government. It had been inspired by Azahari, leader of a political party which had opportunity to promote its opposition to Malaysia by constitutional means within Brunei Legislative Council.

No decision on Brunei's entry into Malaysia has yet been taken. This is matter for direct negotiation between Brunei and Malayan Governments.

There has been no popular support for uprising within Brunei. Sultan of Brunei has disassociated himself categorically from aims of rebels and has obtained through his treaty rights with Britain armed assistance in quelling revolt.

It is significant also that Azahari has received no support from accepted leaders of peoples of neighbouring Sarawak and North Borneo. Political leaders in both territories have condemned revolt in strongest terms. In Sarawak even party opposed to Malaysia has disassociated itself from Azahari's actions.

Merits of case are clear and it can thus be under-stood why in response to request from British authorities Australian Government agreed to make available a Hercules aircraft of R.A.A.F. to assist in transporting troops and supplies in performance of Britain's treaty obligations. New Zealand Government is giving similar assistance and Government of Malaysia has contributed a police unit.

OPERATIONAL FILE 2/
FOR ATTENTION O.D. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

114

 0.22884

Australian Government welcomes clear and categorical assurances of Philippines Government that it is in no way involved in revolt and has no intention of giving Azahari and his supporters any aid or succour.

It is vital for peace and confidence among neighbouring countries in the area that there be no outside interference in the settlement of what is essentially a domestic situation. We are confident, therefore, that other neighbouring countries will, in the interests of continuing peace and stability, see the great advantages of avoiding any involvement in, or encouragement of, the revolt.

It is to be deplored that because of an act of banditry the lives of innocent, disinterested residents of Brunei, including some Australians, should be placed in jeopardy. It is a matter for satisfaction that up to this point no loss of life among Australians in the Area has been reported.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

17th December, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

TM. 131750.

DATED: 17TH DECEMBER, 1962.
0930.
REC'D: 17TH DECEMBER, 1962.
1133.

FROM:

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
MANILA.

413. UNCLASSIFIED.

BRUNEI.

1. PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT CONFERRED YESTERDAY BUT STILL NO CLEAR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY. PRESIDENT MILDLY REPROVED DEFENCE SECRETARY PERALTA FOR UNAUTHORIZED STATEMENT ON SATURDAY THAT,

(A) BORNEO REVOLUTION "IS NOT OUR AFFAIR BUT STRICTLY A MATTER BEWTWEEN BRITAIN AND HER PROTECTORATE".

(B) THE PHILIPPINES POLICY ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT WAS ONE OF "NON-INVOLVEMENT".

(C) AZAHARI AND ZAINI WERE BEING PROTECTED.

(D) HE WAS KEEPING CLOSE WATCH ON REPORTS THAT INDONESIA WAS "INTERESTED" IN THE REVOLT. HE DID NOT THINK THAT INDONESIA'S "150 MIGS ARE INTENDED TO BE USED AGAINST US".

2. SUPPORT FOR REBELS BY INDONESIAN GROUPS AND NASUTION'S PRESENCE IN SOUTH BORNEO WAS HEADLINED IN SUNDAY PAPERS.

3. AZAHARI HAS REPORTEDLY APPROACHED MUSLIM EMBASSIES IN MANILA FOR SUPPORT. HE CLAIMS SULTAN OF BRUNEI UNDER DURESS.

4. "MANILA TIMES" THIS MORNING WARNS OF POSSIBILITY OF ALGERIAN SITUATION IN BORNEO.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M's.

17TH DECEMBER, 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
SEE ATTENTION DR. WILSON

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

16

128

EAP.

I.31773

FROM :

Dated : 17th December, 1962. 0500

Rec'd : 17th December, 1962. 1622

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

313. RESTRICTED. IMMEDIATE. IMMEDIATE.

Brunei-Australian Citizens.

Flanagan visited Brunei 15th - 16th December. Following is position based on discussions with local authorities, Australian residents of Brunei Town and Shell Brunei representative.

2. There are approximately 30 Australians in Brunei. Mostly in Seria-Kuala Belait area (Shell and Government Service), with half a dozen on Brunei Town (Government Service).

3. All are un-harmed and well including G. Wright of Kuala Belait with the exception of the following :

A) T. Rea[illegible] of Seria (Shell) who was wounded in the arm while being used as a screen for rebel attack on Phuec Station. Injury stated not very serious and being treated in Seria Hospital.

B) Dr and Mrs. K. Sweetman of Seria (Shell) who suffered some shock as a result of Dr. Sweetman's being held as a hostage by rebels. They have gone to Singapore for a rest.

4. Mrs. R. Morris, wife of Resident at Limbang (Sarawak) also suffered from shock as a result of caputre by rebels. Mrs. Morris has gone to Kuching and may go to Australia. Morris is well and is remaining at post.

5. Missionaries from Lawas (Sarawak) are still at Labuan but are preparing to return. Lawas area is under Army control.

6. Generally speaking European hostages were treated surprisingly well by rebels and considerable care was exercised by British forces recapturing towns to ensure their safety both from military action and possible violence.

7. With recapture of all rebel held towns military action is now directed mainly at inducing rebel remanents by show of force and persuation, to surrender with weapons and uniforms, and at

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DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION OF BRANCH

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

161

INWARD CABLEGRAM

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

same time to prevent as far as possible retreat of hard core elements to jungle areas in preparation for further Guerilla activities. Political decisions remain in abeyance. Administration and Services in major towns are operating fairly effectively.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'S

17th December, 1962.

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RECEIVED
19 DEC 1962
DEPT. OF DEFENCE
CANBERRA

127/60

TELEGRAM

From THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER CANBERRA

Cypher.
POL.293/2.

Despatched: 15.28 hours 16th December, 1962.
Received: 09.15 hours 17th December, 1962.

ADDITION.

TELEGRAM No. No. 709. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated airmail British High Commissioner, Kuala Lumpur.

BRUNEI.

My immediately following telegram contains text of Foreign Office Guidance Telegram No. 501 of December 13th.

2. The following background has been prepared by Commissioner-General for South East Asia for use with press in explaining why British troops went into internally self-governing State and to refute accusations this action was to bring about Malaysia against wishes of people of Brunei. You may (?find) it useful to supplement other Guidance.

BRUNEI.

Brunei is not a British colony but has been a British Protected State since 1888 under a Treaty made with the Sultan who agreed that Her Majesty's Government should conduct foreign relations. A supplementary agreement of 1905/6 provided for a British Resident. The Governor of Sarawak was High Commissioner of Brunei between 1948 and 1959. On September 29th 1959 the Sultan promulgated the first written constitution for his State which provided for a Privy Council, an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. The post of British Resident hitherto responsible for administration was abolished and a Chief Minister (Mentri Besar) was appointed by the Sultan for the exercise of executive authority in the State. At the same time a new agreement was concluded between the Queen and the Sultan under which Her Majesty's Government continues to be responsible for Defence and External Affairs. The agreement provides for the appointment of a British High Commissioner. It explicitly includes in the term "Defence"

file

/Defence

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159

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received: -2-

defence against any grave menace to the peace or tranquility of the State. The agreement further provides for consultation with the Sultan should Her Majesty's Government be required to take measures in an emergency. It was at the request of the Sultan that British forces were sent to Brunei.

2. Since the promulgation of the 1959 Constitution few British officials remained in Brunei. The administration was entirely composed of Brunei personnel with some officials drawn from the Federation of Malaya. When the new Constitution was introduced the Sultan declared his intention gradually to introduce elections into the State. The first elections were held in August this year. They were won by the Party Rakyat who filled the 16 seats on the Legislative Council as provided for under the Constitution (the other 17 members are ex-officio and nominated members). The Legislative Council had only met for formal business and was due to meet on December 19th. In addition members of the Party Rakyat filled the 6 nominated seats on the Executive Council.

3. No pressure has been brought to bear on the Brunei Government or people to join Malaysia. This is a matter for them to decide. Certain resolutions before the Parliament of December 19th had been refused by the Speaker on, so we believe, the grounds that they were out with the Constitution of Brunei. In any case no discussion on this subject has been held between the British authorities and the Government of Brunei.

4. No troops are normally stationed in Brunei or in the neighbouring territories of Sarawak and North Borneo. All the political parties of Sarawak and North Borneo have

/declared

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158

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received: -3-

declared themselves against the revolt (and have condemned it) which is confined to the area of Brunei and a limited sphere outside and almost exclusively confined to the people of Brunei, Malays and Kedayans. Ibans, Kenyahs and Kayans of Sarawak and the people of North Borneo have not joined in. British forces have gone in in aid of civil power to restore law and order. The Sultan has condemned Azahari for his action, has issued a warrant for his arrest and has declared the Party Rakyat an illegal organisation. Azahari is not a Brunei citizen nor is he a member of the Legislative Council. His claim to be acting under the Sultan's authority is without the slightest foundation.

ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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CYPHER
POL.253/2 126 157

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched: 1845 Hours 16th December, 1962.
Received: 0930 Hours 17th December, 1962.

ROUTINE

TELEGRAM N NO. 706 CONFIDENTIAL

Repeated Airmail Kuala Lumpur.

My immediately preceding telegram

BRUNEI

Following is text of Foreign Office telegram guidance 501 dated 13th December.

BEGINS

The military situation in the main towns will soon be under control and causes us no anxiety though resistance in the less accessible towns and rural districts may continue for some time and a continued military presence in Brunei North Borneo and Sarawak will be needed to support the civil power for some time. All is quiet in North Borneo but activities of leftwing minorities in Sarawak are somewhat disquieting and Governor has taken precautionary measures.

2. The political implications of the Brunei revolt are serious not because Indonesia and the Philippines have been fishing in these troubled waters. We believe that Indonesians to have given combat training to some of the rebels in Indonesia before the revolt began though there is no evidence that the Indonesian Government ordered the actual rising (or even expected it so soon). Nor does Indonesia appear to have been involved since fighting began though public statements by Indonesian leaders have expressed sympathy for the Brunei rebels. The Philippine Government have denied any involvement and their part seems to

/have

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156

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received:

have been confined to allowing Azahari (the leader of the rebels) to spend some weeks in Manila and give press conferences there.

3. The foregoing is for your own information though you may draw on it in discussion with reliable colleagues. For more public use you should emphasize the following points -

(a) Disturbances in Brunei are not an ordinary anti-colonialist rising. Brunei is an autonomous protected state not a Colony and British forces were sent at the request of the Sultan in accordance with our treaty obligations.

(b) The rebels are against Brunei joining Malaysia and in favour of an independent state uniting all three Borneo territories under Brunei domination.

(c) Brunei rebels have no support in North Borneo or Sarawak except amongst a few Bruneians on the borders with Brunei state.

(d) Brunei Government have not yet decided whether to accept invitations to join Malaysia but this decision is for them alone not for us.

(e) We still regard Malaysia as feasible and the best solution.

ENDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE

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155
125

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Cypher.

Despatched: 02.45 hours 13th December, 1962.
Received: 10.12 hours 17th December, 1962.

BRUNEI.

TELEGRAM NO. 1565. CONFIDENTIAL.

British High Commissioner, Canberra No. 1565,
Wellington No. 868, Kuala Lumpur No. 1329.

Following text Foreign Office telegram addressed Djakarta No. 1035 of 12th December repeated for information Manila, Washington, British Delegation NATO, New York, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Canberra, Wellington, Jesselton.

BRUNEI.

BRUNEI.

Indonesian Ambassador was asked to call today by Peck and given our view of the trouble in Brunei stressing *inter alia* that Brunei's decision whether or not to join Malaysia was for her alone. He pointed out that Azahari has a bad record and had been in touch with the Barisan Socialist Party of Singapore the only political group in the whole of Malaysia which had declared support for the revolt in Brunei. Azahari had also been in touch with Cesena in Manila but the Philippine Government had assured us that they were not supporting Azahari's movement.

2. Peck went on to say that there had been rumours and reports, however, which had caused me personally considerable concern these were to the effect that some of the rebels had made use of Indonesian territory and received training there. There had also been the Press comments and remarks by President Sukarno reported in your Telegram No. 728. No doubt the Indonesian Government who had repeatedly said they had no objection to Malaysia were not involved but it would be helpful if the Ambassador could persuade his Government to follow the Philippine example and reassure

/us

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154

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received: -2-

us on this point.

3. The Ambassador took all this in good part and said he had been expecting summons earlier. He apologised for the comments in the Indonesian Observer of which he had not been previously aware and for which he disclaimed responsibility. He promised to report our representations to his Government. He asked whether there were any specific reports suggesting that Indonesia was involved and was told that if anything of this kind was received we would get in touch with him again.

4. While we naturally place no great value on any Indonesian assurances even if they are received the foregoing should strengthen our hand in dealing with the Indonesians if concrete evidence of Indonesian Governmental support of the rebels is forthcoming from interrogation of prisoners or other quotable sources.

ADDS.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.31696

153

DATED. 15TH DECEMBER, 1962, 1812

REC'D. 15TH DECEMBER, 1962, 1821

FROM:

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION,
SINGAPORE.

301 SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

BRUNEI REVOLT.

YOU WILL HAVE GATHERED THAT THE TENGKU AND LEE ARE PLAYING UP THE INDONESIAN THREAT TO MALAYSIA.

THEIR JUDGEMENT IS THAT THIS STRENGTHENS THE MALAYSIA PROSPECTS.

LEE BELIEVES THAT THE SINGAPORE CHINESE DISLIKE AND FEAR OF THE INDONESIANS MUST BE EXPLOITED IN ANY SHOWDOWN WITH THE BARISAN SOCIALISTS.

2. WE WILL SEND BY SERVICE CHANNELS A COMPLETE PICTURE OF AVAILABILITY OF BRITISH UNITS FOR ACTION IN THE MALAYAN REGION.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

15TH DECEMBER, 1962.

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

123 15

JW

I.31691

Dated: 15th December, 1962, 1410

Rec'd: 15th December, 1962, 1420

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

412 CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Minister's Statement on Brunei.

The Philippines Government public attitude to support for Azahari is still non-committal (see our 402), though indications have been given that requests for recognition will be shelved.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
MIN. & DEPT TERRITORIES
P.M.'s

15th December, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIA

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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1962 DEC 15 22:42

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~~RR RGYDXA~~

~~DE RGMPA 150416~~

R 15120

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

~~BT~~

S E C R E T SAC.36 BRUNEI SITUATION. ONE. FOLLOWING IS EXTRACT FROM SITREP SEACOVS 81 AT 140400Z FROM C-IN-C TO LONDON. CURFEW NOW LIFTED BRUNEI FROM 0700H TO 1700H. ALL KNOWN HOSTAGES HAVE NOW BEEN RELEASED. FIRST WAR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS TO MEET 15 DEC. TWO. FOLLOWING FROM SITREP SEACOS 83 AT 141200Z FROM C-IN-C TO LONDON. NIAH SIBUT VMARUDI TUTONG UNDER CONTROL OWN TROOPSM EEEEEEEE OWN TROOPS. MUARA RETAKEN BY 1/2 GURKHAS POLICE STATION RELEVIED A.M. 14TH. BANGAR RRETAKEN BY 42 CDO. CDO SECTIONS AT SUNDAR TRUSAN. DAILY AIR RECONNAISSANCE BEING FLOWN BORNEO COAST. AIR RECONNAISSANCE MISSION FLOWN NATUNA ISLANDS. NO ACTIVITY

~~PAGE TWO RGMPA 150416~~

AT AIRFIELD. NO UNUSUAL CONCENTRATION NAVAL OR MERCHANT SHIPPING. THREE. OTHER GENERAL INFO FOLLOWS. HMS ALBION LANDED 40 CDO KUCHING P.M. 14TH. KEEPING ONE COMPANY ON BOARD FOR OPERATIONS EAST SARAWAK 15 DEC. 40 CDO TO BE DEPLOYED FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS SARAWAK. ONE FULLY MANNED AND ARMED HIGH SPEED LAUNCH TO COME UNDER COMMAND COMBRITFOR FORTHWITH FOR COASTAL INTERCEPTION OF ANY UNIDIENTIFIED OR REBEL CRAFT. AT 142210Z A POSSIBLE CONCENTRATION OF REBELS REPORTED SOUTH-WEST OF BAU AND NEAR LUBOKANTU. AIR RECONNAISSANCE BEING ARRANGED. LOCAL INFORMATION INDICATES SOME REBELS MOVING SOUTH-EAST FROM MAURA BY DEVIOUS ROUTES TO JOIN REBELS IN TEMBURONG AREA. JOINT STAFF NOW CONSISTS OF 14 OFFICERS EEEEEEEE TEMBURONG AREA. COMPANY REMAINING ALBION MAY BE GIVEN TASK OF CLEARING THIS AREA.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

FOLLOWING FROM SITREP SEACOS 83 AT 1412ØØZ FROM C-IN-C TO LONDON.
NIAH SIBUT VMARUDI TUTONG UNDER CONTROL OWN TROOPSM EEEEEEEE OWN
TROOPS. MUARA RETAKEN BY 1/2 GURKHAS POLICE STATION RELEVIED A.M.
14TH. BANGAR RRETAKEN BY 42 CDO. CDO SECTIONS AT SUNDAR TRUSAN.
DAILY AIR RECONNAISSANCE BEING FLOWN BORNEO
COAST. AIR RECONNAISSANCE MISSION FLOWN NATUNA ISLANDS. NO ACTIVITY

~~PAGE TWO RGMPA 15Ø416~~

AT AIRFIELD. NO UNUSUAL CONCENTRATION NAVAL OR MERCHANT SHIPPING.
THREE. OTHER GENERAL INFO FOLLOWS. HMS ALBION LANDED 4Ø CDO KUCHING
P.M. 14TH. KEEPING ONE COMPANY ON BOARD FOR OPERATIONS EAST SARAWAK
15 DEC. 4Ø CDO TO BE DEPLOYED FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS SARAWAK.
ONE FULLY MANNED AND ARMED HIGH SPEED LAUNCH TO COME UNDER COMMAND
COMBRIT~~FOR~~ FORTHWITH FOR COASTAL INTERCEPTION OF ANY UNIDIENTIFIED
OR REBEL CRAFT. AT 1422 1ØZ A POSSIBLE CONCENTRATION OF REBELS RE-
PORTED SOUTH-WEST OF BAU AND NEAR LUBOKANTU. AIR RECONNAISSANCE BEING
ARRANGED. LOCAL INFORMATION INDICATES SOME REBELS MOVING SOUTH-EAST
FROM MAURA BY DEVIOUS ROUTES TO JOIN REBELS IN TEMBURONG AREA.
JOINT STAFF NOW CONSISTS OF 14 OFFICERS EEEEEEEE TEMBURONG AREA.
COMPANY REMAINING ALBION MAY BE GIVEN TASK OF CLEARING THIS AREA.
JOINT STAFF NOW CONSISTS OF 14 OFFICERS IN BRUNEI TOWN.

~~BT~~

15/Ø8ØØZ

Copied to Cos
FIC

Defence
DMI (Maj White)

Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

1. CJPC
2/3 Mr Bigham
Mr Poynor
4. Mr McKean
5. Mr Aspinall

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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NBL

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SECRET

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SSM044H

RR RGYDXA

DE RGMPA 160233

R 162030GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE 1962 DEC 16 22:07

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

S E CR E T SAC 38 BORNEO SITUATION PD ONE PD CINC SITREP TO LONDON SEACOS 89 OF 160455Z PD NO MAJOR INCIDENTS TO REPORT AND GROUND OPERATIONS CONTINUING TO DEVELOP SATISFACTORILY PD INTERROGATION OF PRISONERS AND RESULTING BUILD UP OF ENEMY ORBAT ALSO PROCEEDING WELL PD NORTH BORNEO AREA PD POLICE IN TAWAU AREA EAST COAST RESIDENCY HAVE RECOVERED UNIFORMS AND BADGES INDICATING EXISTENCE OF MILITANT ORGANISATION PD POLICE TAKING FURTHER ACTION PD IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENTS COY OF QOH WHO HAVE BEEN ASHORE IN NE BORNEO ON ANTI PIRATE AND ANTI RAIDING ACTIVITIES ARE NOW UNDER COMD OF COMBRITFOR AND FURTHER RFT NORTH

PAGE TWO RGMPA 160233

BORNEO

?94,39 BEING CONSIDERED PD TWO PD OTHER INFO AT 151400Z PD TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT OPERATING AS REDUCED RATES AS ROADS AND RIVERS CLEARED PD OFFENSIVE SUPPORT AIRCRAFT STILL SUPPORTING OPERATIONS SOUTH OF LIMBANG WITH DUMMY ATTACKS AND RECCE PD LIFE QUICKLY RETURNING TO NORMAL THROUGHOUT AREA PD THREE PD CINC VISITING LABUAN BRUNEI 17 AND 18 DEC

BT

C 1ST WORD PAGE TWO BORNEO

16/0215Z

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

Copied to CGS JIC

SECRET

Secretary Defence

DMI (Maj White)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

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1962 DEC 16 22:07

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R 162100GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

~~BT~~

S E C R E T SAC 39 BRUNEI SITUATION PD ONE PD GENERAL WALKER APPOINTED DIRETOR OF OPERATIONS BORNEO TERRITORIES PD ARRIVES BRUNEI 19 DEC PD WILL TAKE OVER FROM BRIG GLENNIE PD TWO PD FURTHER ~~SAC E EEEEEEE~~ SAC 37 KCONCERNING EISPOSITION OF NAVAL VESSELS PD UNDERSTAND AUST NAVAL BOARD RECEIVE COMPLETE STATEMENT VEVERY 24 HOURS PD THREE PD PATROLLING ACTIVITY BEING KMAINTAINED SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH EAST OF KUCHING PD FOUR PD UU ARMY TROOPS INVOLVED TOTAL APPROX ~~JRWPP~~ 4200 IN BORNEO

AREA

~~BT~~

C ~~WA BORNEO TERRITORIES~~

~~C WA STATEMENT EPERY~~

~~1641452~~

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

Copied to Cos
J/C

SECRET

Defence
DMI (Maj White)

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C12/3363 148

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PRIORITY

SECRET

1962 DEC 15 10:07

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

S E C R E T SAC 37 DISPOSITION UK TROOPS 151500 PD BRUNEI AREA PD LAWAS TRUSAN SUNDAR ELEMENTS 42 CDO PD BANGAR COY 4 COD MINUS PD WIMBANG HQ 42 CDO PLUS TWO COYS PD MUARA ELEMENTS 1/2 GURKHAS PD BRUNEI ~~TW~~ TRUKEI TOWN COMBRITFOR HQ 99 BDE 1/2 GURKHAS MINUS PD TUTONG TAC HQ 1/2 GURKHAS PLUS TWO COYS PD SERIA ~~CO~~ 19 HIGHLANDERS AND ONE COY GREENJACKETS PD KUALA BELAIT ELEMENTS 1/2 GURKHAS PD ~~MIRI GREENJ~~ MIRI GREENJACKETS MINUS PD SIBUTI AND NLAH EACH ONE COY GREENJACKETS PD KUCHING BTY 20 RA AND 40 CDO MINUS PD RN SHIPS AS FOLLOWS PD LABUAN COASTAL MINESWEEPER WOODBRIDGE HAVEN PD OILERS WAVE SOVEREIGN AND GOLD RANGER PD ~~C WA PE OILERS~~

Copied to Cos
JIC

PAGE TWO ~~RGMPA 150415~~

FRIGATE BLACKPOOL PD BRUNEI TOWN RIVER AREA AREA FISKERTON AND CHAWTONBOTH CMS PD KUCHING RIVER AREA CMS WILKIESTON PD LUNDU ESTUARY WOOLASTON PD ALBION OFF COAST PD FOLLOWING DISPOSITIONS IN MALAYA AND SINGAPORE PD 1/10 GURKHAS JOHORE BAHRU PD 2/10 GURKHAS SINGAPORE PD ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS SINGAPORE RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM UK PD 1/7 GURKHAS PART ON BORDER SECURITY AND BALANCE AT IPOH PD ~~W~~ PD 20 REGT RA LESS BTY NEAR SERAMBAN PD THIS EQUIVALENT TO HALF BATTALION PD 145 CDO BTY OF 105MM SINGAPORE PD 28 COMWEL BDE GP MALAYSIA

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

MINUS PD TUTONG TAC HQ 1/2 GURKHAS PLUS TWO COYS PD SERIA ~~PD~~ HIGHLANDERS AND ONE COY GREENJACKETS PD KUALA BELAIT ELEMENTS 1/2 GURKHAS PD ~~MIRI GREENJ~~ MIRI GREENJACKETS MINUS PD SIBUTI AND NLAH EACH ONE COY GREENJACKETS PD KUCHING BTY 20 RA AND 40 CDO MINUS PD RN SHIPS AS FOLLOWS PD LABUAN COASTAL MINESWEEPER WOODBRIDGE HAVEN PD OILERS WAVE SOVEREIGN AND GOLD RANGER PD ~~C WA PE OILERS~~

Copied to Cos
J/C

PAGE TWO ~~RGMPA 150415~~

FRIGATE BLACKPOOL PD BRUNEI TOWN RIVER AREA AREA FISKERTON AND CHAWTONBOTH CMS PD KUCHING RIVER AREA CMS WILKIESTON PD LUNDU ESTUARY WOOLASTON PD ALBION OFF COAST PD FOLLOWING DISPOSITIONS IN MALAYA AND SINGAPORE PD 1/10 GURKHAS JOHORE BAHRU PD 2/10 GURKHAS SINGAPORE PD ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS SINGAPORE RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM UK PD 1/7 GURKHAS PART ON BORDER SECURITY AND BALANCE AT IPOH PD ~~W~~ PD 20 REGT RA LESS BTY NEAR SERAMBAN PD THIS EQUIVALENT TO HALF BATTALION PD 145 CDO BTY OF 105MM SINGAPORE PD 28 COMWEL BDE GP MALACCA LESS NZ BN ON BORDER PD QUEENS ROYAL IRISH HUSSARS RHQ AND SQN IPOH WITH ONE SQN SINGAPORE PD IN SINGAPORE NORMAL POTENTIAL OF BASE INSTALLATIONS BEING MAINTAINED BY FLYING IN 150 SPECIALIST REINFORCEMENTS EX UK NEXT WEEK PD ONE BATTALION IS ON 72 HOURS NOTICE IN UK PD UK UNITS IN SINGAPORE AND MALAYA LESS ~~UK BAT~~ UK BATTALION MALACCA ON 12 HRS NOTICE FOR IS

BT

C ~~WA THIS EQUIVALENT~~

C WA ~~ONE BATTALION~~

15/0800Z

Defence
DMI (Maj White)

SECRET

Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply
ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

Chairman, JPC
~~118~~ 147

COPY NO. 30

JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE (AUSTRALIA)

NOTE NO. 13/1962

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BRUNEI

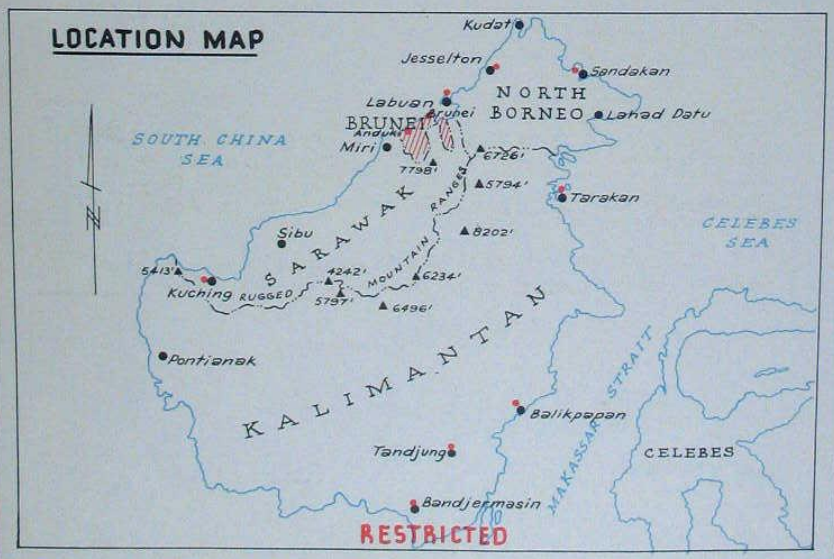
CANBERRA
14TH DECEMBER, 1962.

Ch. JPC 17/12.
Gr. Sec JPC
JPS/I 18/12
Adv. Nicholson 18/12.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

146



Compiled and drawn by J18(A)A-400-1262

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE (AUSTRALIA)

NOTE NO. 13/1962

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BRUNEI

MILITARY SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

The British Security forces have re-captured the principal centres in Brunei recently held by the rebel North Borneo National Army. Mopping-up operations are continuing in Seria and Kuala Belait and also in Limbang (Sarawak), in which areas most of the fighting took place. The Security Forces have engaged rebels in the Sibuti area of Sarawak and, as a precautionary measure, some troops have been sent to Kuching, North Borneo. British authorities estimate that the main body of the rebels should be overcome in the next few days.

Originally estimated at potentially 5,000, the active strength of the rebels was estimated by the British, on 13th December, to be between 2,000 and 3,000. Some are equipped with locally-purchased shot-guns and knives and possibly 200-300 rifles, 20 Sten guns and a few LMG's captured from police stations and Shell Company installations. The number of rebel and civilian casualties is unknown but 300 rebels have been taken prisoner.

The rebels may now be able to mount and sustain guerilla operations, but this would appear to depend on their receiving external assistance. We have no evidence to support the fear expressed by the Prime Minister of Malaya that the Indonesians might now be planning direct intervention, either by regular military forces or by volunteers.

The British Security Forces in and adjacent to Brunei now consist of 99 Brigade, including:-

1/2nd Gurkha Rifles;
The Queen's Own Highlanders;
1st Green Jackets; and
42nd Royal Marine Commando,
together with supporting units
and some armoured cars.

..../2

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40th Royal Marine Commando is to be disembarked at Kuching on 14th December. With the exception of 40th Royal Marine Commando, all these troops have been withdrawn from Singapore and Malaya. There is a possibility that a battalion from Britain may be stationed in the Borneo Territories.

On 13th December the following Royal Navy ships were deployed in, or en route to, Borneo waters:-

1 Commando Carrier
3 Frigates
4 Minesweepers
2 Oilers

The Commando Carrier is transporting 40th Commando to the area.

POLITICAL SITUATION

The Borneo Territories

The Sultan of Brunei publicly disassociated himself from the revolt, the mainspring of which appears to have been the opposition of Brunei's Malays to their incorporation into Malaysia. Another factor in the situation is doubtless the conflict between the Sultan and the Partai Rakjat over internal constitutional reforms in the State of Brunei.

In Sarawak, the situation now appears to be generally quiet. Popular leaders, including the leader of the communist-penetrated SUPP, disassociated themselves from the revolt. However, there is some evidence that elements in the SUPP are disposed to support the rebels, and there is a strong Clandestine Communist Organization (CCO) with a membership mostly Chinese, and with direct links with the Chinese Communist Party. An estimated 60 pro-communist Chinese youths have disappeared into the jungle from Sibu.

In North Borneo, where the situation remains quiet all political parties joined in a resolution by the Legislative Council strongly condemning the rebels.

..../3

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Malayan Reactions

The Malayan Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, who claims to have warned the British Government some time ago of the imminence of the revolt, has accused political organizations in Indonesia of encouraging and supporting the revolt both financially and militarily. On 13th December he invoked Article 6 of the Anglo-Malayan Defence Agreement providing for consultations between Malaya and Britain in the event of a threat of armed attack against Malaya or British territory in the area.

Opposition parties in Malaya have criticized the Malayan Government for opposing the struggle of the Brunei people against "British colonialism".

Singapore Reactions

The Barisan Socialis, which is in a minority of only one in the Singapore Legislative Assembly, hailed the revolt as a popular national liberation movement. However, the Prime Minister of Singapore has publicly congratulated Mr. Donald Stephen, a pro-Malaysia political leader in North Borneo, on his "determined stand against foreign forces interfering in Malaysia". The Singapore Prime Minister claimed that "premature foreign intervention" (presumably Indonesian) would "only hasten the inevitable realization and consolidation of Malaysia".

Philippines Reactions

We believe that high Filipino officials have known (possibly for the last three months) of the intention of the rebels to mount a rebellion. However, the Philippines Government has denied any official contacts with Azahari in Manila, and President Macapagal has reportedly cautioned a group of congressmen against enmeshing the Philippines directly in the Brunei revolt.

..../4

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It seems clear that the Philippines have gone some way in aiding Azahari and his group, perhaps having in mind that a revolt in Brunei might offer further scope for putting pressure on the British Government in connection with the Philippines claim to North Borneo.

Indonesian Reaction

While there is evidence of Indonesian official support for Azahari's general anti-Malaysian and reformist policies, we have no evidence of any military participation by the Indonesian Government in the Brunei revolt.

Press reports from Djakarta indicate that President Sukarno has said that "new emerging forces in Brunei will triumph". As a result of guidance from the Indonesian Minister for Information, Doctor Abdulgani, most Indonesian newspapers have taken the line that the motive for the revolt is the peoples' rejection of the British plan "to force the peoples of Borneo to join Malaysia". This line accords with a number of statements in recent weeks by Indonesian leaders, which, while not directly critical of Malaysia, appear so by implication.

(Sgd) N. P. MADDERN
Acting Chairman
on behalf of the
JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

CANBERRA
14TH DECEMBER, 1962

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GUARD

FOL. 147

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

KA

O.22750

Sent: 14th December, 1962
1600

TO:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...SAV.356

Australian Mission to United Nation,
NEW YORK...SAV.143

Borneo + Malaysia

SECRET GUARD.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 403 dated 13th December from Manila.

Begins:-

(take in text of I.31449)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

14th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

OFFICE MACDONALD HOUSE (2nd Floor) ORCHARD ROAD,
TELEGRAPHIC: "AUSTCOM SINGAPORE."
P. O. BOX 99.

DEFENCE
248·5·6

FOL 17 140

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
SINGAPORE.

RECEIVED
18 DEC 1962
DEPT. OF DEFENCE
CANBERRA

File No: 310/1

Memo No: DRS.112

14th December, 1962.

The Secretary,
Dept. of Defence,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

PRELIMINARY NOTES ON THE NORTH
KALIMANTAN NATIONAL ARMY (NKNA).

... Forwarded herewith is a copy of "Preliminary Notes on the NKNA" prepared by MIO, Brunei.

2. These notes were prepared as a result of preliminary interrogation made in the early stages of the operations in Brunei. As further information becomes available it will be forwarded either by safehand or by signal depending on its content.

(R. A. HAY)
Colonel
Defence Representative

18 DEC 1962
2. SAA (I.C.)
3. file

SECRET

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SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

SECRET 139

SECRET

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Preliminary Notes on the NORTH KALIMANTAN NATIONAL ARMY
Prepared by MIO BRUNEI - Capt J.F.H. GREGORY, STAFFORD

1. TITLE

The NORTH KALIMANTAN NATIONAL ARMY is known in BRUNEI as the TENTARA NASIONALE KALIMANTAN UTARA (T.N.K.U.).

2. ORGANISATION

a. The TNKU is organised on military lines. Six men form a Compi (Section) and thirty men a Platoon. The size of other units is not yet known.

b. The TNKU is also organised on a district basis. TNKU districts are - KUALA BELAIT, TUTONG, BRUNEI, MUARA and TEMBURONG.

c. The Leader of the TNKU is known as TRUS TENTARA AGONG (TTA) who, according to a PW statement is alleged to be in BRUNEI town.

d. An officer is designated as Quartermaster and is responsible for collecting food from the villages. There is no evidence to show that any civilian organisation is helping the TNKU to obtain food. This is mainly obtained by threats at gun point.

e. The method of passing messages is by runners who are escorted by TNKU members. Such messengers are frequently changed.

3. DRESS

The TNKU uniform is similar to the jungle green operational dress used by British and Commonwealth troops in FARELF. Certain details of dress are as follows:-

a. Jungle green hat. This sometimes has the PARTY RAKYAT emblem (a black bulls head) painted on the front. This is presumably to represent a cap badge.

b. Dark green, dark blue or even grey shirts with the PARTY RAKYAT insignia on the right shoulder are worn. Trousers of similar colour are worn i.e. dark green or grey. Shoulder titles of red cloth with the TNKU lettering in white may also be worn. Coloured stripes have also been noted on the epaulettes but their meaning has not been ascertained.

c. Some TNKU members wear their regimental number on their left breast. A small replica of the PARTY RAKYAT flag (red and white with green triangle) on the right breast.

d. Officers wear their rank on the epaulette and NCOs on the right upper arm.

e. Footwear may consist of jungle boots, leather boots or basket ball boots.

4. EQUIPMENT

a. The '38 pattern British Army type small pack is normally carried. These may be substituted by home made packs or air travel bags. They usually contain a change of clothing, ammunition and personal items etc.

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SECRET

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SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

b. Transistor radio sets have been found on occasions. Interrogations have revealed that these have been used for listening to Radio BRUNEI. This was presumably to keep in touch with the latest news and any indications of the movements of the Security Forces.

5. WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

a. Single barrelled shot guns and Ferongs appear to be the main weapons in use. Rifles of the 303 Lee Enfield Mark 5 Carbine with flash eliminator, Verey Pistols and bayonets all taken from Police Stations which have been over-run are also in use. A number of assorted knives, air rifles and axes have also been recovered from prisoners.

b. For the shotgun the normal 12 bore cartridge is in use but many are filled with heavy shot.

c. Although the police are equipped with Stens, Sterlings and LMGs none have to date been recovered from any of the TNKU members.

6. RECRUITMENT AND MORALE

The TNKU is divided into 'a hard core' and 'a soft core' and from events so far it would appear that the latter are in the majority. The 'hard core' can at times make a determined stand. They will however surrender when further resistance is impractible. From evidence it appears that the 'soft core' are often made to join the TNKU at gun point with the result that these are more prone to surrender at the first show of force against them.

7. TACTICS

The TNKU prefer to attack under cover of darkness and they vary their tactics. Up to date experiences have been as follows:-

a. Frontal assault at night with approximately 300 - 350 men after previously cutting off the electricity.

b. Ambush and sniping. Ambushing of troops sent to relieve a Police Station.

c. Main times for rebel activity are between 0200 hrs and 0600 hrs.

d. Inter-communication between sections and platoons is by light signal.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

HS 137

SRG

I. 31671

DATED. 14TH DECEMBER, 1962
1907

FROM.

REC'D. 15TH DECEMBER, 1962
1130

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

1. Brunei
~~2. Malaysia~~

3377. SECRET.

(TO PASS TO MANILA, SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, DJAKARTA)

REPEATED U.N. NEW YORK, LONDON 926.

BRUNEI.

STATE DEPARTMENT IS SOMEWHAT CONCERNED ABOUT 'CRESCENDO' OF MALAYAN CRITICISM OF INDONESIA'S ROLE.

INDONESIA IS ALREADY REACTING SAVAGELY TO TUNKU'S CRITICISMS AND MAY BE PUSHED INTO MORE EXTREME PUBLIC POSITION IF THESE CONTINUE (SEE PARAGRAPH 4 TELEGRAM 3378).

2. WE GATHER THAT U.S.A. HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO SECURE DISENGAGEMENT OF PHILIPPINES FROM BRUNEI PROBLEM AND TO PREVENT BREAK-UP OF A.S.A.

THE DEPARTMENT THINKS THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS THAT PHILIPPINES MAY BE TAKING A SECOND LOOK AT THE MATTER.

3. LINE WHICH WE UNDERSTAND DEPARTMENT TO BE TAKING WITH PHILIPPINES IS THAT TROUBLE IN BRUNEI AND OBSTRUCTION OF MALAYSIA CAN BENEFIT ONLY INDONESIA.

PARALLEL LINE IS THAT, IF INDONESIA WERE TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN NORTH BORNEO TERRITORIES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHILIPPINES INFLUENCE THERE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED.

4. WE UNDERSTAND DEPARTMENT IS ALSO TRYING TO DISABUSE PHILIPPINES LEADERS REGARDING THEIR APPARENT CONCERN THAT CREATION OF MALAYSIA WOULD RESULT IN ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRIDGE OVER WHICH SINGAPORE COMMUNISTS COULD GAIN EASIER ACCESS TO PHILIPPINES (PARA 3 OF OUR 3316).

ONE ARGUMENT BEING USED IS THAT, TO THE EXTENT THAT PHILIPPINES LEADERS ARE CONCERNED WITH SECURITY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA ISLANDS, THEY SHOULD RECOGNISE THAT THEIR OBJECTIVES ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH EXTENSION OF INDONESIAN INFLUENCE.

ANOTHER ARGUMENT IS THAT THREAT TO AREA REPRESENTED BY COMMUNIST ELEMENTS IN SINGAPORE WOULD BE APPRECIABLY ENLARGED IF, BECAUSE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN BORNEO TERRITORIES, SINGAPORE WOULD BE APPRECIABLY ENLARGED IF, BECAUSE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN BORNEO TERRITORIES, SINGAPORE COULD NOT BE MERGED WITH MALAYA AS PART OF MALAYSIA PLAN.

5. WE WILL FOLLOW UP FURTHER.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. &DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

15TH DECEMBER, 1962

SECRET
SECRET
SECRET

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NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD SAVINGRAM

DW

I.31752

FROM.

DATED. 14TH DECEMBER, 1962.

REC'D. 17TH DECEMBER, 1962.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
TOKYO.

SAV.47. SECRET.

JAPANESE VIEWS ON THE BRUNEI REVOLUTION AND ON INDONESIA.

SHIGERU INADA HEAD OF THE SOUTH EAST ASIAN SECTION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD ME ON 13TH DECEMBER THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WAS SATISFIED FROM EVIDENCE IN ITS POSSESSION THAT THE P.K.I. WAS ACTIVELY BEHIND THE AZAHARI REBELLION IN BRUNEI.

HE SAID THEY BELIEVED THAT THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT HAD NOT ALLOWED ITSELF TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY WAY ALTHOUGH A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME TO THE REBELLION WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE PLEASED IT.

MR. OHIRA HAD DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN CABINET, GIVING IT AS HIS ASSESSMENT THAT THE OUTBREAK WAS NOT SUCH A BAD THING ON THE WHOLE.

IT PROVED THAT THE BRITISH HAD BEEN RIGHT IN THEIR EARLIER CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE AND PROVIDED A VERY REAL JUSTIFICATION FOR THE STATIONING OF A BRITISH FORCE IN SINGAPORE.

JAPAN DID NOT THINK IT WAS GOING TO EFFECT THE MALAYSIA OUTCOME AND SAW ADVANTAGES TO THE NEW STATE IN THE FACT THAT THESE DISSIDENT ELEMENTS HAD REVEALED THEMSELVES BEFORE MALAYSIA CAME INTO BEING.

2. JAPAN HAS BEEN FOLLOWING CLOSELY THE DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING MALAYSIA.

THEY FIND THE UNPREDICTABILITY OF INDONESIA RATHER ALARMING AND CONSIDER THAT THE NEW STATE WILL BE A VERY USEFUL COUNTER-POISE TO ITS SOUTHERN NEIGHBOUR.

INADA SAID THAT ONE MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED THE PHILIPPINES TO SEE THINGS IN THIS LIGHT.

JAPAN FOUND IT HARD TO UNDERSTAND THE REASONING BEHIND THE ATTITUDE TAKEN BY THE PHILIPPINES OVER THE NORTH BORNEO CLAIM AND THE FAILURE OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE A CLEAR CUT POSITION CONCERNING AZAHARI.

3. TAKING UP THE SUBJECT OF INDONESIA, INADA SAID THAT THEY BELIEVED DJUANDA'S HEALTH TO BE REALLY BAD AND THAT WE WOULD THEREFORE HAVE TO ACCEPT THE PROSPECT OF HIS NO LONGER PLAYING ANY EFFECTIVE ROLE IN INDONESIAN AFFAIRS.

THEY REGARD THIS AS RATHER A CALAMITY, SINCE THEY HAVE ALWAYS CONSIDERED HIM TO BE A STABILIZING INFLUENCE.

I GATHERED THAT THEY ARE MISTRUSTFUL OF SUBANDRIO AND WARY OF WHAT THEY REGARD AS A DANGEROUS MIXTURE OF CLEVERNESS AND UNLIMITED AMBITION.

THEY WERE NOT SURPRISED THAT HE SHOULD HAVE SECURED THE APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF ANTARA'S SUPERVISORY COUNCIL AND CONSIDER THAT BUT FOR NASUTION HE WOULD HAVE OBTAINED THE FIRST MINISTERSHIP.

NOR WERE THEY SURPRISED AT RUSLAN ABDULGANI SUCCEDING YAMIN AS THEY BELIEVE HIM TO HAVE REMAINED CLOSE TO SUKARNO DESPITE HIS APPARENT FALL FROM GRACE IN MARCH.

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

SECRET SECRET SECRET

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DW

INWARD SAVINGRAM

-2- 1.31752

4. INADA ASKED WHAT YOUR ASSESSMENT WAS OF THE PRESENT BALANCE OF FORCES IN THE P.K.I.

THEIR OWN FEELING IS THAT AS A RESULT OF THE SINO INDIAN CONFLICT LUKMAN AND THE PRO PEKING GROUP HAVE MADE HEADWAY VIS A VIS AIDIT.

THEY CONSIDER THAT THE P.K.I. IS TOO INVOLVED IN THIS INTERNAL IDEOLOGICAL TUG OF WAR TO BE CONTEMPLATING ANY CHANGE IN TACTICS, SUCH AS WAS HINTED AT BY OUR EMBASSY IN COMMENTING ON THE DEMONSTRATION IN SURABAJA ON 15TH NOVEMBER.

5. I HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE JAPANESE ARE NOT GOING TO WORRY VERY MUCH OVER THE TIMING OF THE HANDOVER IN WEST NEW GUINEA.

THEY APPRECIATE THE POINT THAT THE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD BE ADHERED TO BOTH AS REGARDS THE TIMING OF THE TRANSFER AND THE HOLDING OF THE PLEBISCITE.

HOWEVER THEY ARE RELIEVED THAT THE BASIC PROBLEM IS OUT OF THE WAY AND WOULD PROBABLY NOT RAISE THEIR VOICE VERY LOUD, IF AT ALL, SHOULD INDONESIA SHOW SIGNS OF GETTING ROUND THE AGREEMENT.

6. YOU WILL RECALL THAT WHEN I LAST SAW INADA HE TOLD ME (OUR TELEGRAM 560) THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CONCRETE DISCUSSION WITH THE INDONESIANS ABOUT AID OR THE EXTENSION OF CREDIT.

HE SAID THAT HE COULD NOW CONFIRM TO ME THAT DURING SUKARNO'S VISIT TO JAPAN THE INDONESIANS HAD NOT SERIOUSLY ATTEMPTED TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC AID ON ANY LEVEL.

HE SAID THAT JAPAN HAD BEEN PREPARED TO LOOK AT ANY SERIOUS PROPOSITION BUT NONE HAD BEEN MADE.

THEY JUDGED THAT ALL THE TALK HAD BEEN DESIGNED MERELY FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION IN INDONESIA AS A WAY OF JUSTIFYING THERE THE EXPENSIVE JUNKET TO TOKYO.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.

17TH DECEMBER, 1962.

SECRET SECRET SECRET

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

134
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SECRET

KA

I.31542

Dated: 14th December, 1962
0108

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962
0800

FROM:

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

302. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt.

Poett stated during press conference in answer to a question that there was no evidence at all that Indonesians were backing revolt. I think he had Selkirk's blessing.

2. Selkirk advises that Tungku has invoked article 6 (consulation on threat) of British Malayan defence agreement.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

14th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

Secty

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

112 133

SRG

I. 31538

Dated: 14th December, 1962
0109

FROM:

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962
0830

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

303. SECRET.

Please pass following to C.A.S. from Air Vice Marshall Headlam.

Your 590 12th December.

Prompt decision to make Hercules available has been greatly appreciated here and rendering valuable assistance.

2. Utilisation limited by one crew available to do one sortie daily, total 5.

3. Hercules has been used for mixed loads, passengers, vehicles also radio equipment and navigation aids and airportable equipment. Intention future use Hercules for vehicles of which large backlog Army and Air also radio aids.

4. R.A.F. have been strongly reinforced by Transport Command but mainly in Britannias/Hastings which lack heavy lift and all available Beverleys fully employed vital work in forward area.

5. Since my A09184 of 11th December military situation has greatly improved and sea lift of backlog heavy equipment vehicles etc. is getting under way.

6. With vastly improved military situation my assessment is available sea and air transport can meet commitment with delay accepted providing no deterioriation in situation and this appears unlikely.

7. Estimate one Hercules available required further 4 to 9 days.

8. Additional crew already asked for by F.E.A.F. would be valuable assistance if available in time.

9. For information, air transport in all roles to tactical support have been vital factor in this operation.

10. We are continuing build-up of S.R. transport in forward area.

11. N.Z. have committed Bristol Freighter Squadron fully and without reservations on use.

12. R.A.F. and others impressed by your prompt commitment one Hercules and by aircraft's capability and performance.

..2

XR Secty

Informed DCAS fare
I also accepted. Sec. agree
& will inform Minister.
RL 17/12

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

SECRET

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

13

SRG

I. 31538

- 2 -

13. December. Your signal received 1630 local time 13th

MIN. & DEPT AIR
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
MIN. & DEPT E.A.
P.M's

14th December, 1962

SECRET SECRET SECRET

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248 5 6 DEFENCE FOL 140

SECRET

1962 DEC 14 23:04

C12/3364

NNNN M

VZCZCCSE005

VZCZCMCA004SMA 059

JSA 230

HH

RR RGYDXA

DE RGMPA 140685

R 141615GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

S E C R E T SAC 35 BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS FROM SITREP (SEACOS 79) FROM COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF FAR EAST TO MINDEF LONDON DESPATCHED AT -131230Z (1) GREENJACKETS PD LANDING CARRIED OUT AT SIBUTI BY LCTS PD CONTACT MADE BETWEEN SIBUTI CMM DEKANU AND NIAH PD BEKANU CLEARED ENEMY PD ONE SECTION AT MARUDI TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL IRREGULARS PD (2) QOH CONTROL NORTH COAST FROM BELAID TO ANDUKI PD TUTONG RE-ENTERED PD (3) 42 CDO PD LIMBANG CONSOLIDATED BUT ENEMY OPPOSITION STRENGTHENING TO THE SOUTH PD ONE TROOP LIFTED TO LAWAS CMM NOW QUIET PD (4) 1/2 GURKHA PD CONTROLLING BRUNEI PD MUARA REMAINS IN ENEMY HANDS PD (5) FOCINV FEF CO-ORDINATING SEA/AIR RECCE OF SEA APPROACHES FOLLOWING INTELLIGENCE REPORT OF POSSIBLE REINFORCING FROM NATUNA ISLANDS

BT

C WA OUT AT

WA NOW QUIET

14/1015Z

Defence

DMI (Maj W[illegible])

Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

1 CJPC
2 A/S DP
3 D-A/S DP
4
5

Copied to COS

SECRET

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1. Ch. J.P.C. 17/12
2. Gl. Secy J.P.C. for
3. Depte file

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

2CCSE006

SECRET

128

SMG
AHQ CANBERRA
1962 DEC 14 01:09

C12/3315

NH

R 131000

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

S E C R E T SAC.32 BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS IN FARELF SITREP TO MINDEF LONDON AS AT 120930Z PD MIRI LUTONG AREA QUIET PD NO CONTACT WITH 300 REBELS REPORTED NEAR SIBUTI AND NIAH PD SERIA TOWN CLEARED AND HOSTAGES RELEASED PD TUTONG REMAINS IN REBEL HANDS PD BRUNEI TOWN QUIET PD MUARA AND TEMBOURANG DISTRICT STILL HELD BY REBELS PD LOCATION OF OWN TROOPS PD LIMBANG ONE COMPANY 42 CDO PD SERIA HEADQUARTERS AND TWO COMPANY QOH PD LAWAS PLATOON 42 CDO PD KUALA BELAIT COMPANY 1/2 GURKHAS PD MIRI 1 GREENJACKETS LESS COMPANY PD BRUNEI TOWN 1/2 GURKHAS LESS COMPANY [redacted] 42 CDO LESS COMPANY AND

SECRET

A

Q

PAGE TWO

ONE PLATOON PD HEADQUARTERS BRITISH FORCES AND HEADQUARTERS 99 BRIGADE PD LABUAN ONE COMPANY 1 GREENJACKETS PD LIMBANG WAS CAPTURED BY 42 CDO USING BOATS FOR APPROACH UP RIVER PD SHIPPING PD LST WITH 120 VEHCILES INCLUDING ELEMENTS OF HQ 99 BRIGADE 1 GREENJACKETS ASC COMPANY FIELD PARK SQUADRON ETD SINGAPORE 121230Z PD COMMUNICATIONS PD RAF NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR PRIMARY CLEARANCE FOR LABUAN PD ARMY FOR BRUNEI WITH RN FACILITIES TO BACK UP BOT RAF AND ARMY PD SINGAPORE PD THE THREATENED MARCH BY 300 SINGAPORE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ON PHOENIX PRK DID NOT MATERIALISE PD OTHERWISE QUIET PD LOGISITIC SUPPORT PD RAF ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTENANCE OF LABUAN PD ALL ARMY MAINTENANCE THROUGH 99 BRIGADE MAINTENANCE AREA PD RESUPPLIED PRIMARILY BY SEA WITH RED STAR ITEMS BY AIR PD RESUPPLIED PRIMARILY BY SEA WITH RED STAR ITEM S BY AIR PD INTENTIONS PD COMMANDER 3 COMMANDO BRIGADE PROCEEDING TO [illegible] AS C-IN-C (FE) REPRESENTATIVE WITH GOVERNOR PD 99 BRIGADE

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

TROOPS PD LIMBANG ONE COMPANY 42 CDO PD SERIA HEADQUARTERS AND TWO COMPANY QOH PD LAWAS PLATOON 42 CDO PD KUALA BELAIT COMPANY 1/2 GURKHAS PD MIRI 1 GREENJACKETS LESS COMPANY PD BRUNEI TOWN 1/2 GURKHAS LESS COMPANY [redacted] 42 CDO LESS COMPANY AND

SECRET

A

PAGE TWO [redacted]

ONE PLATOON PD HEADQUARTERS BRITISH FORCES AND HEADQUARTERS 99 BRIGADE PD LABUAN ONE COMPANY 1 GREENJACKETS PD LIMBANG WAS CAPTURED BY 42 CDO USING BOATS FOR APPROACH UP RIVER PD SHIPPING PD LST WITH 120 VEHCILES INCLUDING ELEMENTS OF HQ 99 BRIGADE 1 GREENJACKETS ASC COMPANY FIELD PARK SQUADRON ETD SINGAPORE 121230Z PD COMMUNICATIONS PD RAF NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR PRIMARY CLEARANCE FOR LABUAN PD ARMY FOR BRUNEI WITH RN FACILITIES TO BACK UP BOT RAF AND ARMY PD SINGAPORE PD THE THREATENED MARCH BY 300 SINGAPORE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ON PHOENIX PRK DID NOT MATERIALISE PD OTHERWISE QUIET PD LOGISITIC SUPPORT PD RAF ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTENANCE OF LABUAN PD ALL ARMY MAINTENANCE THROUGH 99 BRIGADE MAINTENANCE AREA PD RESUPPLIED PRIMARILY BY SEA WITH RED STAR ITEMS BY AIR PD RESUPPLIED PRIMARILY BY SEA WITH RED STAR ITEM S BY AIR PD INTENTIONS PD COMMANDER 3 COMMANDO BRIGADE PROCEEDING TO KUCHING AS C-IN-C(FE) REPRESENTATIVE WITH GOVERNOR PD 99 BRIGADE CONSOLIDATE KUALA BELAIT AND RECAPTURE SEMBURANG JAIL AND SECURE BRIDGE TUTONG PD FOLLOWING UNITS AT NOTICE PD HQS AND TWO COMPANIES 1/7 GURKHAS AT 24 HOURS AND 20 RA AT 48 HOURS

BT

~~C-WA UP BOTH~~

~~WA P D LOGISTIC~~

~~WA BY AIR PD INTENTIONS~~

13/07552

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

SECRET

Ack

DMI (MAJ WHYTE)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

CCSE008

~~CWCA006SWA 043~~

~~RL0030~~

108 177

C12/3354

SECRET

~~HH~~

~~RR RCMPXX~~

~~DE RGHPA 130006~~

SMC
AHQ CANBERRA

R 131200GH

1962 DEC 14 01:08

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

S E C R E T SAC 33 BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORTED BY C-IN-C(FE) TO MINDEF LONDON AT 1215556Z PD SIBUTI/NIAH AREA PD NO CONTACT WITH 300 REBELS WHO ARE REPORTED STILL [redacted] IN THIS AREA ALTHOUGH LANDING BY SECURITY FORCES HAS TAKEN PLACE IN VICINITY OF NIAH PD TUTONG AREA PD DUE TO BE CLEARED 13 DEC PD SERIA OIL FIELDS APPEAR INTACT PD EXPLOSIVES STORE ALSO SECURE [redacted] AND INTACT PD NO IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONNEL CMM DOCUMENTS OR WEAPONS TO CONFIRM INVOLVEMENT OF INDONESIANS PD COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF STATES HE IS REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT MAIN CENTRES OF POPULATION ARE NOW UNDER MILITARY CONTROL AND THAT THE MAIN REBEL FORCE HAS BEEN DISPERESED PD ELIMINATION OF MINOR POCKETS OF RESISTANCE AND MOPPING UP PROCEED

~~BT~~

~~C WA ALSO SECURE AND~~

~~WA OR WEAPONS~~

~~WA BEEN DISPERSED~~

~~WA OF RESISTANCE~~

~~WA UP PROCEED~~

13/0800Z

SECRET

Defence
DMI (MAJ WHYTE)

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:—
YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED.
NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY.
ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

ZSE019ZCZCMCA014VSMA 057

SECRET

~~JSA 228DK~~

~~HR~~

~~PR RCVDXA~~

~~DE RCMRA 13D57C~~

R 131800GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

BT

SMC
AHQ CANBERRA

107 126
C12/3316

1962 DEC 14 01:27

A — Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply either Note one of the following— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

S E C R E T SAC 374 BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS FROM C IN C (FE) SITREP (SEACOS 75) TO MINDEF LONDON DATED 130535Z .

(1) BRUNEI TOWN PD CURFEW NOW LIFTED FOR SIX HOURS PD PUBLIC UTILITIES MAINTAINED BY ARMY AND NAVY PD FISKERTON AND CHAWTON GUARDING RIVER AND ASSISTING COMMUNICATIONS PD

(2) MUARA PD STILL HELD BY REBELS PD UNABLE TO OPERATE LIT OR LIGHTERS INTO MUARA PD

JKEL SERIA/KUALA BELAIT PD QUIET

(4) LIMBANG/LAWA PD 42 CDO EXPLORING FURTHER PD

(5) MIRI/LUTONG PD QUIET PD

(6) SIBUTI PD REBEL HELD PD NO CONTACT YET WITH REBELS BY POLICE FORCE

~~G WB SIBUTI (7)~~

~~EHEEE (6)~~

PAGE TWO ~~RCMRA 13D57C~~

(7) WEST SARAWAK PD WILKIESTON AND WOOLASTON BASED KUCHING PD HMS ALERT ARRIVES KUCHING P M TODAY AND WILL BECOME COM AND SHIP FOR COMMANDER 3 COMMANDO BRIGADE PD ONE BATTERY ROYAL ARTILLERY FLYING TO KUCHING IN INTERNAL SECURITY ROLE P M TODAY

(8) FUTURE EMPLOYMENT PD ALBION WILL DISEMBARK 40 CDO KUCHING P M 14 DEC PD FORT CHARLOTTE SAILS P M DEC 13 FOR LABUAN WITH SUPPORT FOR ALL FORCES PD HERMES WILL LAND SQUADRONS SINGAPORE PD DEC 21 TO EMBARK RAF SRT AIRCRAFT FOR LABUAN PD END OF SITREP PD MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS TO KUCHING BEING CARRIED OUT AS RESULT OF PRESSURE FROM GOVERNOR OF KUCHING

BT

: WA BRIGADE PD

13/12402

Secretary
Defence
DMI (MAJ WHYTE)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

BT

S E C R E T SACUMS BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACT FROM C IN C (FE) SITREP (SEACOS 75) TO MINDEF LONDON DATED 130535Z .

(1) BRUNEI TOWN PD CURFEW NOW LIFTED FOR SIX HOURS PD PUBLIC UTILITIES MAINTAINED BY ARMY AND NAVY PD FISKERTON AND CHAWTON GUARDING RIVER AND ASSISTING COMMUNICATIONS PD

(2) MUARA PD STILL HELD BY REBELS PD UNABLE TO OPERATE LIT OR LIGHTERS INTO MUARA PD

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(5) MIRI/LUTONG PD QUIET PD

(6) SIBUTI PD REBEL HELD PD NO CONTACT YET WITH REBELS BY POLICE FORCE

~~C WB SIBUTI (7)~~

~~EFFEED (6)~~

PAGE TWO ~~BSNEA 130678~~

(7) WEST SARAWAK PD WILKIESTON AND WOOLASTON BASED KUCHING PD HMS ALERT ARRIVES KUCHING P M TODAY AND WILL BECOME COM AND SHIP FOR CMMANDER 3 COMMANDO BRIGADE PD ONE BATTERY ROYAL ARTILLERY FLYING TO KUCHING IN INTERNAL SECURITY ROLE P M TODAY

(8) FUTURE EMPLOYMENT PD ALBION WILL DISEMBARK 42 CDO KUCHING P M 14 DEC PD FORT CHARLOTTE SAILS P M DEC 13 FOR LABUAN WITH SUPPORT FOR ALL FORCES PD HERMES WILL LAND SQUADRONS SINGAPORE PD DEC 21 TO EMBARK RAF SRT AIRCRAFT FOR LABUAN PD END OF SITREP PD MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS TO KUCHING BEING CARRIED OUT AS RESULT OF PRESSURE FROM GOVERNOR OF KUCHING

BT

: WA BRIGADE PD

13/1240Z

Chief
Defence
DMI (Maj White)

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

MT 0.22760

TO: Dated 14th December, 1962
2210

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.357.

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....,SAV.144.

SECRET.

Brunei

Following is repetition of telegram No.977 dated 12th December from Djakarta.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31447)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

14th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION S.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

124

105

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

MT

O.22761

TO:

Dated 14th December, 1962
1930

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.358

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....SAV.143.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Bruce

Following is repetition of telegram No.980 dated 13th December, 1962 from Djakarta.

Begins: (Take in text I.31534)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

14th December, 1962

CONFIDENT.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

123

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS 1024

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

MT 0.22762

TO:

Dated 14th December, 1962
2200

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.359.

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....SAV.146.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Brunei

Following is repetition of telegram No.406 dated 13th December from Manila.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31460)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

14th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
SOUTH EAST ASIA & S.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

122

103

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

JW

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

O.22769

Dated: 14th December, 1962,
2010

TO:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.

SAV.361 SECRET.

Brunei

Following is repetition of telegram No. 301 dated 13th December from Singapore.

Begins-

(take in text of I.31485).

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

14th December, 1962.

SECRET

SECRET

SECRE

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PJ.

0.22768.

Sent: 14th December, 1962.
2115.

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK....Sav. 147

Repeated:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...Sav. 360

CONFIDENTIAL.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 404 dated 13th December from Manila.

Begins:-

(Take in text of I.31458)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

15th December, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FILE ATTENTION D.F. DUNCAN

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

120

IM

I.31640

FROM:

Dated: 14th December, 1962, 1855

Australian Commission, SINGAPORE.

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962. 2350

306 CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Brunei.

Your telegram 593.

We have already reported safety of Morris, Knight and Sweetman families; we will seek news of Wright.

2. No news yet of Rea but Shell in Brunei have cabled Shell Singapore with list of wounded and advised all others safe and well.

3. Australian Missionaries are starting to go back from Labuan to their missions.

4. Lists of Europeans in the region have not yet been compiled. In view of overloaded communications, British are only reporting back to Singapore on cases of trouble.

5. We have been trying to arrange flight to Labuan-Brunei. Flanagan should go tomorrow. It would help if you gave us the names of people who are being asked about.

MIN & DEPT E.A. (1520/16/31)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

15th December, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION U.N. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

99 17

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

SRG

I. 31670

DATED. 14TH DECEMBER, 1962
1825

FROM.

REC'D. 15TH DECEMBER, 1962
1110

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3378. SECRET. PRIORITY.

(CANBERRA PLEASE PASS DJAKARTA AND SINGAPORE) REPEATED LONDON 927, U.N. NEW YORK, OTTAWA.

BRUNEI.

WE WERE INTERESTED TO NOTE REPORT IN PARA. 2 OF U.N. NEW YORK'S 1958 THAT BRITISH HAD PLAYED DOWN QUESTION OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT IN BRUNEI REVOLT.

IN OUR DISUCSSIONS OVER PAST WEEK WITH MEMBERS OF BRITISH EMBASSY HERE WE TOO HAD GAINED IMPRESSION THAT BRITISH DID NOT WISH TO DRAW ATTENTION TO POSSIBLE INDONESIAN ROLE OR TO CONFRONT INDONESIANS WITH INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE.

2. INGRAHAM (INDONESIAN AFFAIRS) TOOK THE INITIATIVE ON 14TH DECEMBER IN TELLING US THAT BRITISH HAD INFORMED U.S.A. THEY INTENDED AT THIS TIME TO KEEP UNDER CLOSE COVER ANY EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT.

STATE DEPARTMENT THOUGHT THIS WAS WISE.

3. INGRAHAM DID NOT KNOW REASONS FOR BRITISH TACTICS.

HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT REVELATION OF EVIDENCE AS IT CAME TO LIGHT ON PIECEMEAL BASIS WOULD GIVE INDONESIAN LEADERS MORE CHANCE OF MAKING EFFECTIVE DENIALS AND PROVIDE THEM WITH SUCCESSION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFLAMATORY STATEMENTS (AS WAS ALREADY BEGINNING TO HAPPEN IN RESPECT OF TUNKU'S CHARGES).

MOREOVER, A CASE AGAINST INDONESIA WOULD BE STRENGTHENED IF THE EVIDENCE WERE ALLOWED TO ACCUMULATE AND HANDLED IN ONE BODY.

4. MOSCOTTI (MALAYA - SINGAPORE AFFAIRS) SAID SUBSEQUENTLY THAT AS HE SAW IT THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR KEEPING EVIDENCE UNDER CLOSE COVER AT THIS STAGE WAS TO AVOID THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SITUATION WHERE INDONESIAN REACTION AGAINST PUBLIC REVELATIONS LED TO INDONESIA COMMITTING ITSELF OFFICIALLY TO A HOSTILE POSITION.

5. WE ASKED INGRAHAM WHETHER AND HOW STATE DEPARTMENT THOUGHT INDONESIANS SHOULD BE CONFRONTED WITH ANY SUCH BODY OF EVIDENCE.

INGRAHAM THOUGHT FURTHER INFORMATION WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE MATTER COULD BE PROPERLY CONSIDERED.

IN PARTICULAR IDENTITY OF INDONESIANS INVOLVED AND EXTENT OF THEIR COMPLICITY WOULD HAVE TO BE ESTABLISHED.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION E.A. BRANCH

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

15TH DECEMBER, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

IM

I.31584

FROM:

Dated: 14th December, 1962.
1614

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962.
1614

410 RESTRICTED. PRIORITY.

Brunei.

Following from "Manila Times" this morning:-

(a) Azahari has not yet accepted the offer of volunteers by three Indonesian groupsØ, including the P.N.I. (also described as Partindo)sic, but has asked the volunteers to stand by.

(b) Defence Department's source had established at least seven visits by Azahari and Zaini to the Indonesian Embassy.

(c) Indonesian Counsellor, Hardojo, left for Djakarta yesterday afternoon.

(d) Pelaez discussed the Borneo situation with the Indonesian Ambassador yesterday afternoon.

2. According to the press, pilferage of thousands of rounds of small arms ammunition believed being shipped by Zamboanga - based gun running syndicate to "Borneo" has been "discovered" by Defence authorities.

(Ø Corrupt group)

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

15th December, 1962.

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

115

INWARD CABLEGRAM

97

KA

I.31526

Dated: 14th December, 1962
0956

FROM:

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962
1430

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

300. UNCLASSIFIED. PRIORITY.

Our 293 paragraph 7.

Brunei

Your 584.

According to yesterday's "Malayan Times" a total of 18 Australian missionaries and families were evacuated from Lawas, Northern Sarawak, on Tuesday 11th December, by aircraft flown by members of the Borneo Evangelican Mission. No names yet available.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.(1520/16/31)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

14th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

96/114

IM 131886

FROM:

Dated: 14th December, 1962.
1900

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

Rec'd: 15th December, 1962,
0530

SECRET

308 SECRET.

Brunei Revolt.

Reference my telegram 301.

Sarawak still quiet. S.U.P.P. delegation was due to leave for United Nations on 11th December but has not yet gone. One member of delegation was among those arrested.

2. War Executive Committees will be set up in Brunei, Jesselton, and Kuching along lines of Malayan emergency machinery. They will report to the Commander General.

3. Paragraph 3 of my telegram 301, there is small airstrip 4200 by 110 feet on Natuna Besar but no developments there.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

15th December, 1962.

SECRET

SECR

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
NOT ATTACHED E.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

95 113A

INWARD CABLEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

SRG

I. 31687

Dated: 14th December, 1962
1500

FROM:

Rec'd: 15th December, 1962
0930

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

984. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Singapore 149, Kuala Lumpur 8 .

Brunei Revolt:

Kuala Lumpur's telegram 441 to you.

The only high level talks involving service leaders being held in Djakarta is a conference of Regional Army Commanders which commenced here on December 10th. The subjects of discussion as reported by Antara include follow-up measures required in "just secured areas", regional development and matters connected with the proposal to end the state of emergency. The conference has been planned for at least a week and was announced in the press on December 6th and is the first of this type of conference held by the New Army Commander-in-Chief.

Services Attaches who have discussed report with their Western colleagues know of no Indonesian military build-up in Southern Borneo nor of any further development of Natuna airfield beyond that reported in J.I.B. (M) 6/7.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

15th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

JW

I.31585

Dated: 14th December, 1962,

FROM:

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962.

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

411 UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei.

Osmena told press yesterday that Azahari "no longer feels it imperative to see Macapagal about situation in Borneo".

Azahari reportedly called for military volunteers "from all countries of the Afro-Asian bloc except Communist China and India.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

14th December, 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

93 112

LJH.

O. 22752.

Sent: 14th December, 1962.
1300.

TO:

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

593. UNCLASSIFIED. IMMEDIATE.

Our 584.

Brunei

Glad urgent advice of Australians, especially well-being Mr and Mrs Morris (Limbang) and Geoffrey Wright (P.W.D. Kuala Belait). If you have names of other Australians now safe, would appreciate urgent advice. We are receiving enquiries from relatives. Cannot understand absence of official advice through you from British sources regarding safety of Australians in the area. We have press reports of rescue of Morris and about the release of other Australians held as hostages but feel local authorities could comply with requests for information more promptly.

MIN. & DEPT E.A. (1520/16/31)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

15th December, 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

248 5 6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FOL 92 111

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

KA

0.22680

Sent: 13th December, 1962
2030

TO:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...SAV.354

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...SAV.141

SECRET.

? Brunei Revolt

Following is repetition of telegram No. 441 dated 13th December from Kuala Lumpur.

Begins:-

(take in text of I. 31412)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

13th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

248 5 6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

FAS(6)11/12 FOL 99 110

KA

O.22681

Sent: 13th December, 1962
2100

TO:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...SAV.355

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...SAV.142

CONFIDENTIAL.

? Brunei Revolt

Following is repetition of telegram No. 439 dated 12th December from Kuala Lumpur.

Begins:-

(Take in text of I. 31347)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

13th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

108

SECRET

AM

FROM.

I.31568

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

SENT. 13TH DECEMBER, 1962
1700
RECD. 14TH DECEMBER, 1962
1827

UN.1958. SECRET.

WASHINGTON FOR INFO, OTTAWA SAV 1192, LONDON SAV 1322

BRUNEI.

AT COMMONWEALTH MEETING TODAY, SIR PATRICK DEAN (UNITED KINGDOM) AND ONG (MALAYA) GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRESENT POSITION AND THE FACTS BEHIND IT.
THEY DID NOT ADD ANYTHING TO WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW.

2. THERE WAS SOME VERY BRIEF DISCUSSION.
CEYLON ASKED ABOUT THE EXTENT OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM PLAYED THIS DOWN IN ITS ANSWER.

3. QUAISON-SACKEY (GHANA) SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN REASSURED BY WHAT HE HAD HEARD THE DAY BEFORE IN A PRIVATE DISCUSSION WITH ONG.
QUAISON SACKEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE TROUBLE WOULD BE QUICKLY ENDED SO THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE ANY LIKELIHOOD OF ITS COMING BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS.
HE FEARED THAT IF POLITICAL MOVEMENTS IN SINGAPORE BECAME INVOLVED DISCUSSION MIGHT OCCUR IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

4. I ASKED QUAISON SACKEY PRIVATELY AFTERWARDS ABOUT HIS REMARKS.
QUAISON SACKEY SAID HE HAD BEEN SPEAKING PURELY PERSONALLY.
DAVID MARSHALL KEPT WRITING LETTERS TO NKRUMAH ABOUT MALAYSIA, AND QUAISON SACKEY WAS AFRAID THAT MARSHALL MIGHT GET NKRUMAH INTERESTED IN BRUNEI IF THE MATTER WAS NOT SETTLED QUICKLY (PLEASE SAFEGUARD THIS).

PLIMSOLL.

MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

15TH DECEMBER, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.F. SHANKS

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

CE-MACDONALD HOUSE (2nd Floor) ORCHARD ROAD,
TELEGRAPHIC: "AUSTCOM SINGAPORE."
P. O. BOX 99.

DEFENCE 248·5·6

FOL. 88 107

FAS(B) 11/12

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
SINGAPORE.

RECEIVED 1 DEC 1962 DEPT. OF DEFENCE CANBERRA

File No: 310/1

Memo No: 2463

13th December, 1962.

The Secretary,
Dept. of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

BRUNEI

Further to our Savingram No.3 of 12th December, 1962, attached is copy of JICFE 185 showing the situation in Brunei as at 1200 hours on 12th December, 1962.

2. Copy of this memorandum is being forwarded to the Secretary, Dept. of Defence, Canberra.

W. K. FLANAGAN

(W. K. Flanagan)
First Secretary.

Memo No: DRS.108 3?

The Secretary,
Dept. of Defence,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

For information.

R A Hay

(R. A. HAY)
Colonel
Defence Representative

18 DEC 1962 file
A/(op)

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

Copy for completion of file. See 206.1.1 for consideration of this subject

87

COPY NO.....22.....

MINUTE BY THE DEFENCE COMMITTEE AT MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 13TH DECEMBER, 1962.

Brunei

PRESENT

E.W. Hicks, CBE
Secretary, Department of Defence
(Chairman)

Air Marshal Sir Frederick Scherger, KBE CB DSO AFC
Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Lieutenant-General Sir Reginald Pollard, KBE CB DSO
Chief of the General Staff.

Air Marshal Sir Valston Hancock, KBE CB DFC
Chief of the Air Staff.

Vice Admiral W.H. Harrington, CB CBE DSO
Chief of the Naval Staff.

J.F. Nimmo
Acting Secretary
Prime Minister's Department.

C.L.S. Hewitt,
Representing Secretary to the Treasury.

K.G. Brennan
Representing Secretary
Department of External Affairs.

AGENDUM NO.84/1962 — NO.103/1962 : PARTICIPATION OF AUSTRALIAN INTEGRATED OFFICERS IN BORNEO OPERATIONS

MATTER REFERRED

Minute dated 12th December from the Secretary, Department of Defence, on the above subject.

CONCLUSIONS

2. The Defence Committee :-

(a) noted that Government approval has already been given to the use of a RAAF Hercules aircraft in a transport role in the Brunei operations.

(b) recommended that, in view of the circumstances of the British intervention which was made at the request of the Sultan of Brunei, Australian servicemen integrated into British units should be available for the current operations as required with those units.

.../2

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

101

-2-

(c) recommended that the British authorities be asked to keep Australia informed of the details of Australian personnel employed in the operations.

(J.J. CORRIGAN)
Secretary
DEFENCE COMMITTEE

13.12.1962

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEFENCE 248 5 1 6 FOL. 86 100

FAS(B) 11/12

RECEIVED 14 DEC 1962 DEPT. OF DEFENCE CANBERRA

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
CANBERRA.

In reply quote No. 696/14

13th December, 1962.

The Secretary,
Department of Defence,
CANBERRA.

... Attached for your information is a copy of telegram No. 771 from the Ministry of External Affairs, Wellington to the New Zealand High Commission in Canberra, concerning use of No. 41 Squadron of the RNZAF for ferrying British troops to Brunei.

Keith Brennan
(Keith Brennan)
Assistant Secretary

1. Ch JPC 17/12.
2 A/S(OP)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

COPY

99

INWARD TELEGRAM

86

FROM: MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WELLINGTON

TO: NEW ZEALAND COMMISSION SINGAPORE NO. 454
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION, KUALA LUMPUR NO. 257
NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY, BANGKOK NO. 433
NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY, WASHINGTON NO. 730
NEW ZEALAND PERMANENT MISSION, NEW YORK NO. 358
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON NO. 2809
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION, CANBERRA NO. 771

DATED: 10 DECEMBER 1962 1650

RECE: 10 DECEMBER 1962 1730

No. 771

Following statement issued 10 December:

Begins

The Prime Minister (Rt Hon. Keith Holyoake) said this evening that the Government had agreed in principle that No. 41 Squadron of the RNZAF, which was a part of the Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve and stationed at Singapore, might be used to ferry British troops to Brunei in the current crisis. He explained that the squadron came under the command of the British Far East Air Force: how soon it would be called upon for this task he was unable to say. The squadron was still virtually in the process of returning from Thailand, though it would no doubt be able to turn round quickly.

Mr. Holyoake went on to say that New Zealand had a number of Colombo Plan experts in Sarawak and North Borneo but not in Brunei. All in all, however, there were something over one hundred New Zealand men, women and children in the three territories, in one capacity or another. The New Zealand Commissioner in Singapore knew where these people were and had already been in touch with the British authorities about the likelihood of evacuation becoming necessary. So far, it appeared, the people on the spot had not felt that organized evacuation was called for. The Government would of course receive regular reports from the Commissioner, Mr. Wade, on this and other aspects of the situation.

Ends

EXTERNAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

British Defence Liaison Staff,
~~United Kingdom Joint Services Liaison Staff,~~
Department of Defence,
Canberra, A.C.T.

85 98

BDLS/1650

13th December, 1962

SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

CHAIRMAN,
AUSTRALIAN CHIEFS OF STAFF

SECRETARY,
JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE (AUST.)

BRUNEI SITUATION

Enclosure : Text of JICFE 185 dated 12th December, 1962

I am requested by the Joint Intelligence Committee (Far East) to forward to you the enclosure on the Brunei situation.

See me

(F.B. SUTTON)
Group Captain,
for HEAD OF STAFF

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

62/999.

13 DEC 1962

CANBERRA.

With the Compliments

of the Acting Secretary

Prime Minister's Department.

For information

The Secretary,
Department of Defence,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

SECRET

TELEGRAM

Cypher
POL.293/2

80 93

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS
To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched: 21.30 hours 11th December, 1962
Received: 10.30 hours 12th December, 1962

PRIORITY

TELEGRAM Z. NO. 285 SECRET

Addressed circular Z. 285, British High Commissioner Kuala Lumpur 1303, repeated British Ambassadors Manila, Djakarta, Singapore (Commissioner General) and Saving British High Commissioners Delhi 276, Karachi 2[illegible], Colombo 115.

BRUNEI DISTURBANCES - INDONESIA AND PHILIPPINES

For previous information on possible Indonesian complicity see paragraph 6 of my W. No. 678 and my W. No. 687. Now see also telegram 728 from Djakarta to Foreign Office which is being repeated to you telegraphically reporting public Indonesian reactions.

2. Commissioner General has now reported his conviction that outside influences (most probably Indonesian Communist Party) have helped Party Rakyat. He has suggested that he be authorised to make some specific statement on possible Indonesian complicity in response to rumours about it and we have asked him to restrict his comments to what Secretary of State said in a Supplementary Answer in Parliament on 10 December, namely: begins.

There are indications not yet confirmed that the rebel forces have received a certain amount of military training outside the country. Ends.

3. We have since seen Press report that Tunku indicated in his Parliament on 11 December that Azahari had received financial assistance from neighbouring countries and that rebels' ultimate aim was to unite all three Borneo territories under Indonesian control.

4. At present we ourselves would prefer to avoid

/publicly

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILTY.

SECRET

TELEGRAM

From: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

To: THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, CANBERRA

Despatched:

Received:

publicly identifying Indonesians with Brunei rebels' cause; at least until we have had chance of collecting and examining evidence on their possible complicity.

5. Pelaez Philippine Foreign Minister has publicly denied any official dealings on part of his Government with Azahari. In response to representations from Her Majesty's Ambassador, Manila Pelaez replied

(a) Philippine delegation at United Nations would not repeat not help Party Rakyat if they appeared there;

(b) Philippine Government were in no way involved in Brunei situation.

6. Her Majesty's Ambassador Manila has reported that his American colleague has obtained from President Macapagal and Pelaez an assurance that they have entered into no repeat no commitment with Sokarno.

7. (To Ottawa/Canberra/Wellington only). Please inform Commonwealth authorities.

(To Kuala Lumpur only). You may use foregoing at your discretion in speaking to Malayans. Grateful in any case for your assessment of their views on utility of public references to Indonesians.

SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

TS 1583

DEFENCE 248 5/6 6

PA 89

82

NOTES ON DC AGENDUM NO. 84/62.

PARTICIPATION OF AUSTRALIAN INTEGRATED OFFICERS FOR BORNEO OPERATIONS.

Comments

1. The prolonged Defence Committee consideration in 1957/1958 after the Suez crisis led only to agreement on some general principles, with the recognition that each particular case would be a matter for policy decision by the Government in the light of the circumstances obtaining at the time. The general principles included the clear statement that, from a military point of view, integrated officers should normally be permitted to proceed into active operations should the need arise.

2. From a practical and military point of view, it is difficult to obtain the advantages of integration without expecting that the officers should normally proceed with the units in which they fill specific appointments necessary for the functioning of the unit. However, the decision to permit the officers to proceed with their units is not automatic. In the case of the RAF and RAAF, there is an exchange agreement which includes a clause to cover the position of exchange officers in the event of hostilities. The particular clause reads - "in the event of hostilities in which only one of the two countries is involved, the officers would await orders from the parent Governments. In the meantime, they will not be employed on active operations." We do not know of any similar agreement in the case of the other two Services (nor in respect of other countries with whose forces Australia may have integrated officers). If there had been a similar agreement between the Army and the United Kingdom Army, it is clear that the United Kingdom Army would have been obliged not to employ our personnel on active operations without clearance from the Australian Government. However, as there is no such agreement, the United Kingdom cannot be said to have acted improperly in committing the Australian officers, although perhaps we would have expected them to consult us through Vincent before doing so.

3. There have been two recent cases of a similar nature -

(a) Kuwait. In May this year the Defence Committee considered (DC Minute 49/62) a request from the United Kingdom Air Ministry for authority to use RAAF air crews on exchange with the RAF in the event of RAF intervention in Kuwait (which was not at the time an imminent possibility). The Defence Committee concluded that while there are strong military grounds for agreeing that RAAF transport air crew on exchange with the RAF should participate with RAF air operations in Kuwait. In the circumstances described, such participation would have important political implications which would need to be considered by the Minister for External Affairs before approval could be given. Although we sought the advice of the Minister for External Affairs, this has not been received and, as the Kuwait case was not an actual operation but rather a contingency consideration, we understand that External Affairs do not propose to take the matter any further.

Brunei file

....2/

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

(b) Cuba.

During the Cuban crisis, the Air Attache, Washington, asked the Department of Air whether there were any special instructions for RAAF officers on exchange duties with the USAF. Following discussions with the Department of External Affairs, the Air Attache was informed that RAAF exchange personnel should not be employed in support of any action directly associated with the Cuban crisis, except with the express approval of the Australian Government, in the event U.S. forces were not committed in Cuba.

4. Army and Air have been asked to advise on the numbers of Australians integrated with United Kingdom forces in the Far East, and CGS and CAS will, no doubt, have this information available at the meeting.

5. On the particular merits of the current Brunei situation, the military view is clear that it is desirable that the officers proceed with their units. What we have to consider in addition are the political considerations, both external affairs and domestic. As we see it, the facts are that there is an armed insurrection; the Sultan has properly requested United Kingdom assistance, and this is being given; and that, with reference to the question "whether the operations are endorsed or not opposed by the Australian Government," the Prime Minister has clearly indicated, by his agreement to the use of the Hercules, Australian willingness to assist the United Kingdom authorities. This has already committed Australia from the political (and perhaps also the legal) point of view to a general support of the United Kingdom actions, at least as great as that involved in allowing a few integrated personnel to go with the U.K. units. Commitment of actual Australian units would, of course, be an entirely different matter.

Suggested Action

6. Subject to External Affairs views -

(a) That we should not object to integrated Australian officers proceeding with United Kingdom units in the current Brunei operations.

(b) That we should ask the United Kingdom authorities to give us prior notification, should the involvement of any further Australian officers be contemplated, in order that we may be aware of the scope of our involvement.

(c) That the PAOC(P) be invited to examine the provisions of the RAF/RAAF agreement covering the employment of integrated officers in active operations, to see whether similar provisions should be applied generally to personnel of all three Services and on exchange with countries other than the United Kingdom in order to provide a clear guide as to the procedure in these cases. (It is not contemplated that we necessarily conclude formal exchange agreements, but we should examine the possible general principle which would apply).

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

See file 206.1.1 for action.

81 87

AGENDUM NO.84/1962

COPY NO. 25

DEFENCE COMMITTEE AGENDUM

PARTICIPATION OF AUSTRALIAN INTEGRATED OFFICERS FOR BORNEO OPERATIONS.

The attached copy of a memorandum dated 12th December on the above subject, by direction of the Chairman, has been listed for discussion at this morning's meeting of the Defence Committee.

(J.J. CORRIGAN)
Secretary
DEFENCE COMMITTEE

13.12.1962

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

SECRET

12/12/1962.

The Secretary,
Prime Minister's Department,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

PARTICIPATION OF AUSTRALIAN INTEGRATED OFFICERS FOR BORNEO OPERATIONS.

The following signalled advice has been received from the Australian Army representative, Singapore -

"Without prior knowledge this Headquarters, three integrated Australian officers have accompanied United Kingdom units on Borneo operations. These officers employed as follows - light aircraft pilot, air supply, movements. With build up of force further Australian members may be involved.

HQ Far East defines these operations as military and the force as being on active service. Considers that in these circumstances Australian integrated members should be available to their United Kingdom formations and units. Further that when the operations revert to the nature of internal security that consideration might then be given to withdrawing Australians.

Request earliest clarification of status of Australian integrated personnel in relation to Borneo operations."

2. We are seeking urgent advice from the Departments of Army and Air as to the appointments in British units in Malaya/Singapore which are filled by Australian integrated officers.

3. The general question of the employment in active operations of Australian officers on loan or exchange with other countries was considered by the Defence Committee in 1957/1958. The general conclusions then endorsed by the Defence Committee, insofar as they are relevant to the present situation, were as follows -

"(a) Re-affirmed the principle that the Services should continue to make loans, exchanges or attachments to the Armed Forces of other countries, particularly U.S.A., and Commonwealth countries.

(b) In case of members on loan or exchange who become an integral part of the operational forces of the Commonwealth country with which they are employed, it is desirable from a military point of view that they should normally be permitted to proceed with those forces into active operations should the need arise.

(c) .....

....2/

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

(d) While (b) is submitted as a desirable general principle, from the military point of view, its application on any occasion would be a matter for policy decision by the Government in the light of the circumstances obtaining at the time.

(e) In making the decision referred to in (d), consideration will need to be given not only to the question whether the operations are endorsed or not opposed by the Australian Government, but also to the question whether it is in Australia's interest, or in the interest of allied or friendly countries, for Australian service members to take part in these operations.

(f) In the event of any Commonwealth Force with which Australian Servicemen may be serving on loan, exchange or attachment, becoming involved in operations which the Australian Government does not endorse, they should be withdrawn immediately.

.....

The above conclusions were approved by the Minister for Defence as a statement of general principles for consideration by the Government when decisions need to be made on the employment in active operations of Australian Service personnel on exchange attachment or loan duty with forces of other countries. Advice was forwarded to your Department in my memorandum of 23rd September, 1958.

4. Your urgent consideration and comments would be appreciated on the question of the continued participation of Australian integrated officers in the Borneo operations.

S e c r e t a r y

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

84

79

MEH

I.31460

FROM:

Dated: 13th December, 1962

Rec'd: 14th December, 1962
0450

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

406. CONFIDENTIAL

Brunei.

During call on Busuego this morning to introduce McCredie, the following points emerged:

(a) Philippines have been embarrassed by Azahari's attempted forceful seizure of the three Borneo territories after he had legitimately entered the Philippines last week.

(b) Over the last weekend there was some tendency in Government circles to believe Azahari's unitary state concept might benefit the Philippines. Government is now aware that unitary state need not affect Ø Philippines security or their North Borneo claims. But he mentioned the personal view that a unitary state with United Nations presence and guaranteed by United Nations might be best solution.

(c) They are still in quandary over Azahari's asylum and would not wish to court disfavour.

Lee.

(Ø probable meaning of corrupt group)

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

14th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

78 83

SECRET

KA

Q.22719

Sent: 13th December, 1962
2000

TO:

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

964. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt.

Glad your comment on paragraph 3 Kuala Lumpur's 7.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

14th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

77

ED.

I.31490.

Dated: 13th December, 1962.
1830.
Rec'd: 13th December, 1962.
2220.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

299. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei Revolt.

Singapore Prime Minister yesterday published the text of a telegram he sent to Donald Stephens in North Borneo.

Text follows:-

"Congratulations on your determined stand against foreign forces interfering in Malaysia. Developments since the rebellion on Saturday underline the dangers we have anticipated in discussions in the Malaysia Solidarity Committee a year ago. Because of rapid progress towards Malaysia those who have designs on our territories have been forced to show their hand so early by providing the means for arms and training in order to take over not just Brunei but also Sabah and Sarawak. We should all be grateful for this premature foreign intervention because it will only hasten the inevitable realisation and consolidation of Malaysia."

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M'S.

14th December, 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

AMENDED COPY.

KA

I.31490

Dated: 13th December, 1962
1830

FROM:

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962
2220

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

299. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei Revolt.

Singapore Prime Minister yesterday published the text of a telegram he sent to Donald Stephens in North Borneo.

Text follows:-

"Congratulations on your determined stand against foreign forces interfering in Malaysia. Developments since the rebellion on Saturday underline the dangers we have anticipated in discussions in the Malaysia Solidarity Committee a year ago. Because of rapid progress towards Malaysia those who have designs on our territories have been forced to show their hand so early by providing the means for arms and training in order to take over not just Brunei but also Sabah and Sarawak. We should all be grateful for this premature foreign intervention because it will only hasten the inevitable realisation and consolidation of Malaysia."

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

(✗ Amendments.)

14th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION P.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

JRR

I.31482

FROM:

SENT - 13TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1730

RECD - 14TH DECEMBER, 1962. 0200

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
DJAKARTA.

U/N UNCLASSIFIED.

INDONESIAN PRESS IS CONTINUING TO REPORT THE BRUNEI REBELLION UNDER FRONT PAGE HEADLINES. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN CONSIDERABLE EDITORIAL COMMENT.

2. MOST PAPERS IN CRITICISING TUNKU ABDUL RHAMAN'S STATEMENTS ON THE REBELLION AND THE DECISION TO SEND MALAYAN POLICE TO BRUNEI HAVE SUGGESTED THAT HE IS "BOUND TO DEFEND AND MAINTAIN BRITISH INTERESTS" (BINTANG TIMUR). "MERKEDA" COMMENTED EDITORIALLY THAT "WE NEED NOT REPEAT THAT THE REVOLT IN BRUNEI HAS MADE THE TUNKU LOSE FACE" "WE DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO THINK WHEN HE OFFERED TO MEDIATE IN THE WEST IRIAN DISPUTE AND THEN TURNED OUT TO BE MORE DUTCH THAN THE DUTCH" . "HOWEVER, NOW THAT HE HAS SENT A POLICE FORCE TO BRUNEI TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE THE IMPERIALIST HIRELINGS WE KNOW THAT HE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A COLONIALIST PAWN".

3. ON 13TH DECEMBER THE TUNKU'S REPORTED STATEMENT THAT THE REBELS INTENDED TO HAND OVER NORTH BORNEO TO INDONESIA LED THE "INDONESIAN HERALD" TO REMARK THAT "THIS STATEMENT IS A DIRECT INSULT ON THE VERY PATRIOTISM OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES, PERHAPS ONE WHO HAS NEVER FOUGHT FOR AND HAS NEVER KNOWN TRUE FREEDOM CANNOT TRULY APPRECIATE WHAT FREEDOM REALLY MEANS". THE EDITORIAL COMMENTED THAT - "WITH THE OUTBREAK OF THE REVOLUTION IN NORTH KALIMANTAN THE TRUTH HAS COME OUT INTO THE OPEN, THE WORLD HAS NOW COME TO KNOW THAT THE CLAMOR FOR INDEPENDENCE IN THIS TERRITORY HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR A LONG TIME. WE HAVE NOW BEEN INFORMED THAT THE PEOPLE OF NORTH KALIMANTAN NEVER DID WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE SO-CALLED MALAYSIA PLAN".

4. "HARIAN RAKJAT" ON 13TH DECEMBER QUOTED A STATEMENT BY AIDIT DENYING "CLAIMS BY TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN AND DONALD STEPHENS THAT THE LEADERS OF THE REVOLT IN BRUNEI ARE P.K.I. MEMBERS OR ARE TRAINED BY THE P.K.I." "I APPEAL TO ALL INDONESIANS TO GIVE ALL POSSIBLE AID TO THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF NORTH BORNEO AND TO CONDEMN AND OPPOSE ALL EFFORTS TO SUPPRESS THIS JUST REVOLT".

5. "HARIAN RAKJAT" ALSO REPORTED STATEMENTS OF PROTEST BY PEMUDA RAKJAT GERWANI (INDONESIAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENT) B.T.I. (FARMER'S LEAGUE) SOBSI AND THE CENTRAL YOUTH FRONT AGAINST THE BRITISH ACTIONS IN BORNEO AND AGAINST "THE USE OF ASIANS TO SUPPRESS OTHER ASIANS".

6. BOTH "HARIAN RAKJAT" AND "MERDEKA" CLAIM THAT THE TUNKU IS TRYING TO USE INDONESIA AS A "SCAPEGOAT" (HARIAN RAKJAT) AND THAT THE "IMPERIALISTS

2/.....

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

80a

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

-2-

INWARD CABLEGRAM

1.31482

COLONIALISTS AND PUPPETS WILL NATURALLY TRY TO DEFEND THEIR POSITIONS" (MERDEKA).

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's.

14TH DECEMBER, 1962.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

79

74

MEH

I.31534

FROM:

Dated: 13th December, 1962
1700
Rec'd: 14th December, 1962
0830

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA

980 CONFIDENTIAL.

Brunei.

While emphasising that policy was still under consideration Foreign Office (Djokojuwono North East Asia and Pacific Affairs) told us today that Indonesia might be prepared to facilitate Azaharis travel to United Nations and would probably be prepared to give him asylum. Djokojuwono left definite impression that Indonesia would give moral and political support to rebel movement, for example, by issuing more positive statement of Indonesian sympathy and that implications of such a policy for Indonesian/Malayan relations would weigh lightly in Indonesiancalculations. While Indonesia, he said, would probably not express opposition to Malaysia, it had a legitimate interest in a proposal which had resulted in a break down of security in a bordering territory. He emphasised that Azahari did not want to get tied up with Communists. The British should "talk to him" and should realise that the "Tunku was not the only person who counted".

Today's "Indonesian Herald" editorial (our telegram 779) also foreshadows definite hardening in Indonesian policy.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

14th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

78

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

73

KA

I.31396

Dated: 13th December, 1962

FROM:

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962
1330

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

402. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei.

At press conference yesterday afternoon Macapagal reportedly cautioned a group of congressmen, including temporary speaker Pendatun, who had openly defended Azahari, against enmeshing Philippines in Brunei revolt. He insisted on observation of his own and Foreign Affairs Department's prerogative to state national policy on delicate internationel situations and stressed the necessity of caution to avoid further straining relations between the Philippines and Malaya.

2. President also reportedly said fluid situation left Government no choice but to wait and see before determining attitude.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

13th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ... EXTENSION OF ... DIVISION

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

72 77

IM

I.31458

FROM:

Dated: 13th December, 1962. 1500

Australian Embassy, MANILA.

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962. 2200

404 CONFIDENTIAL.

Brunei.

Have firm evidence that the Philippines Government leaders were aware three months ago of the intention to stage a revolt though not the timing.

2. The Filipinos sympathise with the rebels on the grounds of their traditional policy of support for self-determination but they, no doubt, find that the revolt serves their purpose of embarrassing the British and the Malayans over North Borneo dispute.

3. The Phillippines Government's present attitude is to "wait and see". They will give moral support to Azahari and associates and allow them to remain in the Philippines; they are unlikely at present to go beyond that.

4. At dinner last night Atienza (former legal assistant to the President and close to the rebels) told me that Azahari was seeking, today, Macapagal's good offices in calling for a cease fire. Atienza also said Azahari had not been able to obtain material support from the Philippines and now threatened to go to Indonesia. He expected "full support".

Lee.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

14th December, 1962.

Secty

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. WRANGLE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

71 76

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

JW

I.31448

Dated: 13th December, 1962, 1249

Rec'd: 17th December, 1962, 1700

7

FROM:

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

298 SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei - Use of Hercules.

Reference your telegram 590.

I agree Chief of Air Staff's message to Headlam stressing test of real and urgent need. I understand some sort of request concerning Australian ships on F.E. Station may reach you through service channels.

Jockel.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT AIR
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

13th December, 1962.

Chiefs any developments? R 17/12

Ch. Cos
Secty
XR

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

70 75

MT

I.31488

~~TO~~: FROM

Dated 13th December, 1962
1425
Rec'd 14th December, 1962
0715

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

442. SECRET, PRIORITY.

Addressed Canberra, repeated Singapore 31.

Brunei Revolt.

Our telegram 441.

We have talked to Bennett (New Zealand High Commissioner) who attended yesterday's meeting on Brunei situation.

2. He said Tunku appeared very worried about likely Indonesian intervention in next few days. Decision invoking article 6 of Defence Agreement was actually taken and Tory appeared to encourage Tunku in this step. Bennett expects machinery for consultations to be established this week.

3. Tunku and Tory noted that Australian and New Zealand troops were not involved under Article 6. However, Tunku made passing reference but not a request to the effect that it could be helpful if Australian and New Zealand troops were sent to Brunei "on exercises".

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

14th December, 1962

SECRET SECRET SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.R. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

MT

I.31485

FROM:

Dated 13th December, 1962
0800
Rec'd 14th December, 1962
0400

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

301. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Addressed Canberra, repeated Kuala Lumpur 30.

Brunei Revolt.

Reference paragraph 2 my telegram 296, Sarawak Government told Phoenix Park action was being taken "in view of the dangerous situation". No other background available. A Commando should arrive in Kuching tomorrow.

2. Reference paragraph 3 of Kuala Lumpur telegram 441 there is no confirmation available at this stage in Phoenic Park. Photographic and visual reconnisance being carried out in potential areas of infiltration. Build up in Southern Borneo and construction of Airfield at Natuna Besar not confirmed at this stage.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

14th December, 1962

SECRET

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

68 73

KA

I.31412

Dated: 13th December, 1962 0220

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962 1100

FROM:

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

441. SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Addressed Canberra 441, repeated Singapore 30, Djakarta 7.

Brunei Revolt.

Tunku called meeting at short notice this afternoon of Senior Commonwealth Representatives to discuss Brunei situation.

2. High Commissioner was unable to attend (only Commonwealth representatives were Tory of United Kingdom and Bennett of New Zealand). We understand from New Zealanders that meeting took form of briefing session on Brunei situation including assessment of Indonesian intentions and was attended by leading Services Personnel.

3. Tunku appeared to be apprehensive that Indonesia would intervene before revolt is put down in next few days. He claimed that high level talks were held today in Djakarta which involved Service Chiefs and were presumably in connection with Brunei Revolt. He advanced evidence (not challenged by Tory) of Indonesian Military build-up in Southern Borneo and of construction of airfield on Natuna Besar which threatens route between Singapore and Borneo.

4. Tunku and Tory agreed it could be timely to invoke article 6 of Defence Agreement providing for "consultations" between Malaya and Britain in event of threat of armed attack against Malaya and British territory in far east region.

5. We will be checking further on conclusions reached at meeting.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

13th December, 1962

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DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

72

AM

FROM:

I.31447

Sent: 12th December, 1962
1810
Recd: 13th December, 1962
1620

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

977. SECRET.

Brunei.

While there is still no overt evidence that the revolt was inspired or materially assisted by Indonesia Sukarno has predicted that the rebellion will succeed and Abdulgani has suggested that the press should take the side of the rebels (see our telegram 972). However, apart from the Communist and Communist-influenced press we have, so far, seen no major editorial playing up this.

Martinadata was explicit when talking to Jones yesterday that he had no knowledge of any Indonesian activity and said that he would have expected to know if anything was going on. But we would not assume Martadinata would, necessarily, know or admit that he knew.

On the whole the publically expressed official Indonesian attitude has, up to now, shown as great a degree of restraint as could reasonably be expected in view of undoubted Indonesian sympathy for the rebels. But unless the revolt fizzles out the temptation to assist the rebels may become irresistible. It seems unlikely, moreover, that Indonesia will refrain indefinitely from reacting to remarks by Tunku Rahman, such as his accusations of Indonesian complicity.

Shann.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

14th December, 1962.

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

71

66

MT

0.22678

TO:

Dated 12th December, 1962
1430

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....SAV.140

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....SAV.353

SECRET.

Following is repetition of telegram 296 dated 12th December from Singapore.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31403)

Ends.

E.A. (3030/2/1)
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

13th December, 1962

Brunei Revolt.

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

HISTORICAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

65 70

MT 0.22573

TO: Dated 12th December, 1962
1302

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....1007

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.....2600

UNCLASSIFIED.

Following is repetition of telegram 395 dated 11th December from Manila.

395. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei.

1. In Press statement yesterday (copy by bag) British Embassy outlined need to fulfil obligations under the 1959 Treaty with Sultan of Brunei requesting assistance, stated only minimum forces required to achieve objective would be used, stressed continued support in Sarawak and North Borneo for Malaysia and unanimous condemnation by political leaders there of Azahrari's policies.

2. In answer to press questions yesterday British Ambassador.
(a) Said he was unaware that rebels were receiving arms from Indonesia with whom Britain was on friendly terms,
(b) Side-stepped a direct question as to whether Britain had formally protested against the presence of Azahari in the Philippines. He referred to Filipino Nationalist leaders taking refuge in Hong Kong in 1898.
(c) Said he did not intend to contact Azahari.
(d) Denied that Azahari was a communist but said he lent to the left and was supported by left-wing socialists in Singapore who were opposed to the Federation of Malaysia. He mentioned Azahari was not even a Brunei citizen (he believed he was from Sarawak).

3. Press reports Azahari has -
(a) Appealed to Kennedy, Sukarno, Nehru, Nasser, Ben Bella and Macapagal, to support his 'Government'.
(b) Denied United States reports linking the revolt with communism and deplored Malayan Prime Minister's action in sending Police force to Brunei.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M. 'S

13th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION N.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

~~64~~ 69

KA

0.22636

Sent: 12th December, 1962
2000

TO:

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

590. SECRET. PRIORITY. Bruce Revell — over-assistance

Please pass following to Air Vice Marshal Headlam from Chief of Air Staff.

* Your A09184 of 11th December. The following furnished after consultation with Defence and External Affairs.

1. Australian Government's readiness to assist demonstrated by prompt decision Sunday night to make Hercules available, but we would not repeat not wish to initiate offer of second Hercules.

2. Before putting to Ministers any British request for a second Hercules, we would wish to establish real and urgent need for additional Australian transport assistance, including particularly purpose(s) for which present Hercules has been and will be used; specific reasons for additional Hercules; number of sorties flown to date, and period for which either or both aircraft will be required.

3. What is your own assessment, having regard to resources of R.A.F. Transport Command, not only within the threatre but also by reinforcements from other sources which may be no further from Singapore than Richmond.

MIN. & DEPT AIR
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
MIN. & DEPT E.A.
P.M.'s

13th December, 1962

* Copy circulated with this cable to Chiefs of Staff.
H.G.

Ch Cos

XR

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DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SRG

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I. 31389

DATED. 12TH DECEMBER, 1962
1740

REC'D. 13TH DECEMBER, 1962
0959

FROM:

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3351. CONFIDENTIAL.

(PLEASE PASS TO SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA, DJAKARTA)

REPEATED U.N. NEW YORK, LONDON 918.

BRUNEI REVOLT.

STATE DEPARTMENT'S INDEPENDENT INFORMATION IS STILL LIMITED AND ITS VIEW ON INSPIRATION OF REVOLT LARGELY SPECULATIVE.

2. AS REGARDS MILITARY SITUATION DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT BRITISH HAVE RETAKEN ALL IMPORTANT TOWNS IN BRUNEI BUT THAT THERE MIGHT STILL BE SOME IN REBEL HANDS IN SARAWAK.
IT KNOWS OF NO DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH BORNEO FOLLOWING THE EARLIER FORAY THERE.

3. DEPARTMENT'S MAIN INTEREST AT THE MOMENT IS WHAT AZAHARI WILL DO NEXT.
HE AND ZANI (REBEL ' MINISTER OF COMMERCE') TURNED UP AT UNITED STATES EMBASSY MANILA SEEKING VISAS BUT THEIR PASSPORTS WERE NOT VALID.
UNITED STATES POSTS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO WATCH FOR AZAHARI AND REPORT BACK FOR INSTRUCTIONS IF HE SHOULD SEEK VISA.
AZAHARI'S ONLY NEW MOVE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TO SEND A FOURTH TELEGRAM TO U THANT.
DEPARTMENT IS WATCHING ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK CLOSELY.

4. MOSCOTTI (MALAYA-SINGAPORE AFFAIRS) TOLD US 12TH DECEMBER THAT ONE ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT RESULTING FROM BRUNEI REVOLT HAS BEEN SOLIDIFICATION OF SARAWAK OPINION IN FAVOUR OF MALAYSIA.
EVEN S.U.P.P. HAS NOW WITHDRAWN ITS REQUEST TO APPEAR BEFORE UNITED NATIONS TO SPEAK AGAINST MALAYSIA.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

13TH DECEMBER, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

62-67

SRG

I. 31404

Dated: 12th December, 1962
2349

FROM:

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962
0600

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

297. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei Revolt

Our telegram 295.

Shell oil report that following recapture today of Seria Police Station Knight and Sweetman families have now been released unharmed.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

13th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION S.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SRG

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I. 31403

Dated: 12th December, 1962
2349

FROM:

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962
0800

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

296. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt:

Military effort is still being concentrated on securing coastal towns. Parts of Seria are held by rebels with European prisoners. Ghurkas are advancing to Kuala Belait. Limbang has been recaptured. Rebels have not moved away but their activity is mainly at night.

2. There are no police or military patrols in the Inland. There is nothing to prevent movement in and out of Indonesian Territory except the two weeks' time to walk.

3. A number of persons has been arrested in Sarawak including 2 leaders of S.U.P.P. Two Chinese newpapers have been closed down. There is some evidence that elements in C.C.O. are trying to change policy of non-involvement. Miri is reported restive with some Chinese leaving the town.

4. In Singapore the local workers at the bases have provided labour without incident. The Government made no statement. Lee believes big and determined British effort will have to be sustained in the Borneo Territories but he has not made up his mind what to say.

5. Phoenix Park is completely absorbed in the military and administrative effort and there is no serious forward political thinking going on here. We do not know how much British-Malayan consultation there was before Tunku's parliamentary statement yesterday. Before the uprising the British did not have a single soldier stationed in the Borneo Territories. There are, of course, no prospects for early withdrawal, Brunei Government in future will not be able to manage without very considerable British (and Malay) aid for defence, security and administration. London must be uncomfortably aware that along with deepening British military commitment in Borneo the political position becomes more sensitive in that,

(a) The main international political presentation has to come from the Sultan and the Tunku.

(b) Political and diplomatic contact of the Federation Government will affect developments in Indonesia.

6. J.I.C. (3) views summarised by savingram in today's bag.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

Secty

13th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

60 65

SRG

I. 31402

Dated: 12th December, 1 962
2141

FROM:

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962
0700

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

295. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt

Your telegram 584.

Shell Oil reports that 2 of their Australian employees A.F. Knights (with wife and 2 children) and Dr. K.F.M.D. Sweetman (with wife) are unharmed but in rebel hands.

2. According to this morning's "Straits Times" another Australian Shell employee T.G. Rea (married with 2 children) has been wounded but Shell have no information on this.

3. Shell state that as regards their employees they will undertake next-of-kin notifications and where necessary prevent the departure from Australia, United Kingdom and elsewhere of their children who were to join them for Christmas holidays.

4. Report has just come in that Limbang is recaptured and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Morris have been freed and are unharmed.

5. There is no news of Missionaries in Lawas area but the area has been little disturbed.

6. So far no Australians have been evacuated. No a rrangements exist for European evacuation and it is too early to say whether evacuation will become necessary.

7. Reference your telegram 585 we shall send officer to Borneo Territories as soon as it is useful to do so.

MIN. & DEPT E.A. (1520/16/31)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

13th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

~~59~~ 64

KA

I.31347

Dated: 12th December, 1962
1200

FROM:

Rec'd: 13th December, 1962
0700

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

439. CONFIDENTIAL.

Brunei Revolt.

In Parliament yesterday Tunku referred several times to "Foreign influences" behind Azahari. Towards end of long statement he said "had (Azahari) gone to Indonesia (rather than Manila) he would be giving away the true position".

2. Tunku said Zaiton (Malayan Ambassador in Manila) had told him Filipino President and Foreign Minister did not have prior knowledge of rebellion and "did not know what to do now". However, in other references Tunku implied that Azahari had been sponsored by interests in more than one neighbouring country. (At Tunku's instruction Zaiton returned to Kuala Lumpur on 11th December for consultations (day after Abubakar Philippines Ambassador in Kuala Lumpur returned to Manila for "leave".

3. Tunku also condemned opposite parties for their attitude to revolt. Entire opposition except one independent walked out before Tunku's speech. Opposition later issued joint statement condemning Government especially for sending police to Brunei.

4. Criticism of British Intelligence has continued and Tunku's speech obliquely referred to Selkirk's faulty appreciation of situation.

5. British here yesterday were considering advisabilty of recommending withdrawal of passport facilities from Azahari (who is travelling on British passport issued in Singapore) now that warrant for his arrest has been issued.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

13th December, 1962

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CONFIDENTIAL

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FAR EASTERN N.P. BRANCH

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57

C12/3343

TRAON R

V2C2CCSE0014

1962 DEC 12 23:55

KS L

R 121845GH

FMDEF REP SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

S E C R E T SAC 31 BRUNEI SITUATION AS AT 121200H PD

BRUNEI TOWN QUIET PD LIMBANG CAPTURED BY 42 CDO WITH OWN TROOPS

CASUALTIES 5 KILLED 6 WOUNED PD HOSTAGES RELEASED PD LAIVAS

OCCUPIED BY 42CDO PD TUTONG AND KUALA BELAIT BELIEVED CLEAR

AWAITING CONFIRMATION PD SEREA PENUGA CLEAR PD LUTOUG MIRI QUIET

PD PATROLS TO S W ALONG COAST TOWARDS SIBUTI PD MUARA HELD BY

REBELS SITREP DUE SINGAPORE TONIGHT WILL REPORT MORNING 13 DEC

C WA 42 CDO PD TUTONG AND

Paraphrase NOT required — NO unidentified copy other than one of the following:— YES, AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO, NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

Copied to CGS and Chf JIC

12/11452

MS(DP) — 14 Dec 62

FAS(B) — 14 Dec 62

Defence

DMI (Maj Wkye)

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

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56

C 12/3340

S[redacted]E009

ZC[redacted]7

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

1962 DEC 12 23:22

SECRET

Desk Officer

DMI (Mr White)

R 121400 H

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

[redacted]

S E C R E T SAC 29 AS AT 111530Z BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING DESPATCH TO MINDEF LONDON [redacted] FROM C-IN-C FAR EAST [redacted] BEGINS QUOTE SEACOS 71 PD SITREP PD BAD WEATHER HAS HAMPERED BUILD UP THROUGHOUT DAY PD SERIA AIRSTRIP PD ONE COMPANY GURKHAS AND ONE COMPANY QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS FLEW IN FIRST LIGHT SINCE THEN AIRSTRIP OUT OF ACTION PD LATEST REPORTS THAT REBELS HELD NATIVE QUARTERS 85 40 HOSTAGES PD KUALA BELAIT HELD BY REBELS BUT ONE COMPANY GURKHAS REPORTED ATTACKING AT 111600H PD NORTH BORNEO PD 170 PRISONERS NOW HELD PD KUCHING PD REQUEST FOR SIX CHINESE INTERROGATORS MAY INDICATE ACTION AGAINST OCO PD LIMBANG PD STILL CONTROLLED BY REBELS PD [redacted]

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

PAGE TWO R[redacted]

BUILD UP 110900 H 1600 PERSONS AND 105,000 LBS PD 2 RAF VEHICLES 25 LANDROVERS AND TRAILERS PD OWN TROOPS PD CONBRITFOR AND HQ 99 BDE BRUNEI TOWN PD QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS LESS TWO COMPANIES BRUNEI PD FIRST/SECOND GURKHAS LSSS TWO COMPANIES BRUEI PD ONE COMPANY FIRST/SECOND GURKHAS SERIA PD ONE COMPANY FIRST/SECOND GURKHAS MIRI PD FUTURE INTENTION PD 1 GREENJACKETS TO MIRI ON ARRIVAL [redacted] PD 42 CDO TO SECURE LIMBANG PD UNQUOTE

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

Defence
DMI (Maj Wright)

S E C R E T SAC 29 AS AT 111530Z BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING DESPATCH TO MINDEF LONDON [redacted] FROM C-IN-C FAR EAST [redacted] BEGINS QUOTE SEACOS 71 PD SITREP PD BAD WEATHER HAS HAMPERED BUILD UP THROUGHOUT DAY PD SERIA AIRSTRIP PD ONE COMPANY GURKHAS AND ONE COMPANY QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS FLEW IN FIRST LIGHT SINCE THEN AIRSTRIP OUT OF ACTION PD LATEST REPORTS THAT REBELS HELD NATIVE QUARTERS 85 40 HOSTAGES PD KUALA BELAIT HELD BY REBELS BUT ONE COMPANY GURKHAS REPORTED ATTACKING AT 111600H PD NORTH BORNEO PD 170 PRISONERS NOW HELD PD KUCHING PD REQUEST FOR SIX CHINESE INTERROGATORS MAY INDICATE ACTION AGAINST OCO PD LIMBANG PD STILL CONTROLLED BY REBELS PD ~~6 MA 172 PRISONERS~~

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

PAGE TWO RGMPA ~~120388~~

BUILD UP 110900 H 1600 PERSONS AND 105,000 LBS PD 2 RAF VEHICLES 25 LANDROVERS AND TRAILERS PD OWN TROOPS PD COMBRITFOR AND HQ 99 BDE BRUNEI TOWN PD QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS LESS TWO COMPANIES BRUNEI PD FIRST/SECOND GURKHAS LSSS TWO COMPANIES BRUEI PD ONE COMPANY FIRST/SECOND GURKHAS SERIA PD ONE COMPANY FIRST/SECOND GURKHAS MIRI PD FUTURE INTENTION PD 1 GREENJACKETS TO MIRI ON ARRIVAL [redacted] PD 42 CDO TO SECURE LIMBANG PD UNQUOTE

12/07552

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

NNNN AV

SECRET

55 59

C 12/3338

[redacted]

1962 DEC 12 23:20

[redacted]

R 121425GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

[redacted]

S E C R E T SAC30 BRUNEI SITUATION PD AS AT 11 2300H PD BRUNEI TOWN QUIET PD TEMOURANG STILL REBEL CONTROLLED PD SERIA PARTS STILL REBEL HELD PD HOSTAGES NOT RELEASED PD WATER FRONT AREA BEING CLEARED TO BE FOLLOWED BY ATTACK ON POLICE STATION PD COY 1/2 GURKHAS ADVANCING TO KUALA BELAIT PD MIRI NO INCIDENTS BUT POPULATION RESTIVE PD CHINESE EVACUATING TOWN PD LIMBANG NO CHANGE PD FUTURE INTENTIONS TO RELEASE HOSTAGES AT SERIA AND CONSOLIDATE THAT AREA AND CLEAR KUALA BELAIT PD RECAPTURE TEMBOURANG JAIL PD SECURE BRIDGE AT TUTONG AND RECAPTURE EUROPEAN HOSTAGES IN LIMBANG PD MESSAGE JUST RECEIVED FROM NON MILITARY SOURCES THAT LIMBANG CAPTURED

BT

12/27552

Defence

DMI (Maj White)

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

SECRET

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[redacted]E006

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[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

SECRET C12/3339

1962 DEC 12 23:16

R 121250 GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

[redacted]

S E C R E T SAC 28 FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS IN FARELF SITREP TO THE WAR OFFICE AS AT 110930Z PD BRUNEI QUIET PD REBELS STILL HOLD MUARA AND LIMBANG PD PARTS OF SERIA [redacted] STILL REBEL HELD PD HOSTAGES [redacted] NOT RELEASED PD KUALA BELAIT REBELS HOLD POLICE STATION PD MIRI QUIET PD KUCHING/SIBU AREA LITTLE TENSE BUT QUIET PDCOMD PD COMDBRITFOR [redacted] COMDS 99 BDE AND CDO BDE ALL IN BRUNEI TOWN AREA PD OWN TROOPS PD HQ AND TWO COYS QOH IN BRUNEI PD ELEMENTS HQ 99 BDE AND 42 CDO IN BRUNEI PD HMS TIGER ETA LABUAN 111530Z PD ADVANCE PARTY 42 CDO ON RECCE FOR OPERATION ON

PAGE TWO RGMPA 120387

LIMBANG PD 1/2 GURKHAS PD UNDERSTAND PARTY 1/2 GURKHAS ATTACKING KUALA BELAIT PD MIRI ONE COY PLUS 1/2 GURKHAS PD PROPOSE MOG 1 GREENJACKETS TO MIRI PD UNDERSTAND MILITARY POLICE OPERATION [redacted] INTENDED ON SIBUTI PD END OF FARELF INFO PD OTHER ADDITIONAL INFO AS FOLLOWS PD COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND BRUNEI VERY ERRATIC PD ONE LST DUE BRUNEI P M 13 DEC PD ONE LCT DUE BRUNEI 13 DEC WITH [redacted] 6 FERRETS AND 2 SALADINS PD ONE LCT DUE BRUNEI 14 DEC WITH 2 SALADINS AND 1 SARACEN PD ONE LST SAILS SINGAPORE 14 DEC PD SINGAPORE AREA QUIET PD FORCES ON GROUND 1550 AND 700 ON ROUTE

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

HOLD MUARA AND LIMBANG PD PARTS OF SERIA [redacted]

STILL REBEL HELD PD HOSTAGES [redacted] NOT RELEASED

PD KUALA BELAIT REBELS HOLD POLICE STATION PD MIRI QUIET PD

KUCHING/SIBU AREA LITTLE TENSE BUT QUIET PDCOMD PD COMDBRITFOR [redacted]

[redacted] COMDS 99 BDE AND CDO BDE ALL IN BRUNEI

TOWN AREA PD OWN TROOPS PD HQ AND TWO COYS QOH IN BRUNEI PD

ELEMENTS HQ 99 BDE AND 42 CDO IN BRUNEI PD HMS TIGER ETA LABUAN

111530Z PD ADVANCE PARTY 42 CDO ON RECCE FOR OPERATION ON

PAGE TWO RGMPA 120387

LIMBANG PD 1/2 GURKHAS PD UNDERSTAND PARTY 1/2 GURKHAS ATTACKING

KUALA BELAIT PD MIRI ONE COY PLUS 1/2 GURKHAS PD PROPOSE MOG

1 GREENJACKETS TO MIRI PD UNDERSTAND MILITARY POLICE OPERATION

[redacted] INTENDED ON SIBUTI PD END OF FARELF

INFO PD OTHER ADDITIONAL INFO AS FOLLOWS PD COMMUNICATIONS

BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND BRUNEI VERY ERRATIC PD ONE LST DUE

BRUNEI P M 13 DEC PD ONE LCT DUE BRUNEI 13 DEC WITH [redacted]

[redacted] 6 FERRETS AND 2 SALADINS PD ONE LCT DUE

BRUNEI 14 DEC WITH 2 SALADINS AND 1 SARACEN PD ONE LST SAILS

SINGAPORE 14 DEC PD SINGAPORE AREA QUIET PD FORCES ON GROUND

1550 AND 700 ON ROUTE

[redacted]

12/07552

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. REQUEST REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

SECRET

Defence
DMI (Maj Wayte)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

~~53~~ 57

A.B.C. NEWS ITEM - 12.30 P.M. 12TH DECEMBER, 1962

The R.A.A.F. has joined in the air lift of reinforcements to Brunei against the rebels. The A.B.C. South East Asia representative flew into Brunei town yesterday in an R.A.A.F. Hercules which left Richmond, Sydney, 10 days ago on a courier run to Malaya and has now joined the air lift. The Hercules, commanded by Squadron Leader Hoare of Richmond has been flying ~~types~~ troops to Labuan and yesterday took 40 Royal Marines to Brunei town.

Sam

May I speak urgently

Reg

Discussed with CA & agreed that PROs should be instructed to confirm this if queried, adding reference to NZ decision that their transport squadron in Singapore would be available to assist in support left to Borneo.

12/12

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

TELEGRAM TO: AUSTRALIAN COMMISSIONER, SINGAPORE.

52

PRIORITY SECRET

Please pass following to Air Vice Marshal Headlam from Chief of Air Staff (.)

Your A09184 of 11th December (.) Following furnished after consultation with Defence and External Affairs.

1. Australian Government's readiness to assist demonstrated by prompt decision Sunday night to make Hercules available, but we would not repeat not wish to initiate offer of second Hercules (.)

2. Before putting to Ministers any British request for a second Hercules, we would wish to establish real and urgent need for additional Australian transport assistance, including particularly purpose(s) for which present Hercules has been and will be used; specific reasons for additional Hercules; number of sorties flown to date, and period for which either or both aircraft will be required.

3. What is your own assessment, having regard to resources of RAF Transport Command, not only within the theatre but also by reinforcements from other sources which may be no further from Singapore than Richmond (.)

Despatched by CA
12/12/1962.

Copy to DCAS

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

TELEPRINTER MESSAGE

FROM: DEFENCE, CANBERRA

TO: DEFENCE, MELBOURNE.

12/12/62

For the Minister from the Secretary.

The following signal dated 11th December has been received by the Air Staff from Air Vice Marshal Headlam currently serving as AOC 224 group in Singapore -

(Begins)

Quote Approval to use one Hercules on Borneo support has created excellent feeling here PD Doing most valuable work and extra crew has been asked for PD Have just returned 2 days Borneo and operations serious CMM and heavy lift capability insufficient PD If second Hercules could be offered to RAF this would be tremendous help and very greatly appreciated PD Suggest you discuss with CAS CMM and consider and if possible you take initiative PD Operations likely to go on for some time (Ends)

2. Chief of Air Staff states that second Hercules could be made available without prejudice to RAAF requirements but has sought guidance on Headlam's approach (.)

3. This Department is currently consulting with External Affairs and has suggested to them that reply along following lines should be sent from Chief of Air Staff to Headlam -

(Begins)

Australian Government's readiness to assist demonstrated by prompt decision Sunday night to make Hercules available, but we would not repeat not wish to initiate offer of second Hercules(.)

Before putting to Ministers any British request for a second Hercules, we would wish to establish real and urgent need for additional Australian transport assistance, including particularly purpose(s) for which present Hercules has been and will be used; specific reasons for additional Hercules; number of sorties flown to date, and period for which either or both aircraft will be required(.)

What is your own assessment, having regard to resources of RAF Transport Command, not only within the theatre but also by reinforcements from other sources which may be ~~af~~ no further from Singapore than Richmond(.) (Ends)

SECRET

....2/

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

54

4. External Affairs agree at desk level but are consulting Tange(.) Recommend your approval to despatch of above reply to Headlam subject to External Affairs concurrence (.)

12/12/1962.

M

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

TELEGRAM TO: AUSTRALIAN COMMISSIONER, SINGAPORE. 50 53

PRIORITY SECRET

Please pass following to Air Vice Marshal Headlam from Chief of Air Staff (.)

Your A09184 of 11th December (.) Following furnished after consultation with Defence and External Affairs.

1. Australian Government's readiness to assist demonstrated by prompt decision Sunday night to make Hercules available, but we would not repeat not wish to initiate offer of second Hercules (.)

2. Before putting to Ministers any British request for a second Hercules, we would wish to establish real and urgent need for additional Australian transport assistance, including particularly purpose(s) for which present Hercules has been and will be used; specific reasons for additional Hercules; number of sorties flown to date, and period for which either or both aircraft will be required.

3. What is your own assessment, having regard to resources of RAF Transport Command, not only within the theatre but also by reinforcements from other sources which may be no further from Singapore than Richmond (.)

Ch COS Committee
Copy sent to Mr Brennan EA
JC

12/12/1962.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

PRIORITY SIGNAL

S E C R E T A09184/FECOc 11 DEC FOR DCAS FROM AOC 224 GP PD
REF OUR DISCUSSION USE OF HERCULES PD APPROVAL TO USE ONE
HERCULES ON BORNEO SUPPORT HAS CREATED EXCELLENT FEELING
HERE PD DOING MOST VALUABLE WORK AND EXTRA CREW HAS BEEN
ASKED FOR PD HAVE JUST RETURNED 2 DAYS BORNEO AND OPERATIONS
SERIOUS CMM AND HEAVY LIFT CAPABILITY INSUFFICIENT PD IF
SECOND HERCULES COULD BE OFFERED TO RAF THIS WOULD BE TREMENDOUS
HELP AND VERY GREATLY APPRECIATED PD SUGGEST YOU DISCUSS WITH
CAS CMM AND CONSIDER AND IF POSSIBLE YOU TAKE INITIATIVE PD
OPERATIONS LIKELY TO GO ON FOR SOME TIME

Mr Landon.

Herewith copy of signal from AOC 224 Group that we discussed today.

I would like your views on whether or not we would make any further assistance available.

12 Dec '62.

M Hannah
D.C.A.S.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

51

TELEPRINTER MESSAGE FROM DEFENCE, CANBERRA TO
DEFENCE, MELBOURNE.

11th December, 1962.

To the Minister

From the Secretary

As advised previously the Air Staff signalled an enquiry on Sunday night to Singapore as to how long FEAF wanted the use of the Hercules and how many sorties were proposed to Labuan.

2. The reply from Singapore stated that the British would be grateful for the maximum sorties and hours. They will release the aircraft at the earliest date practicable; this is not known definitely at this stage, but could be in 14 days. Or they will release it when Australia requests.

3. The Air Staff have arranged to keep a close check on the flying hours and usage of the aircraft, and will review the position toward the end of this week, so that a decision can be taken about its future use. Its present employment is not causing any inconvenience to the R.A.A.F.

Telephoned to Minister's Office in Melbourne

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

PRIORITY SIGNAL

S E C R E T A09184/FEC0c 11 DEC FOR DCAS FROM AOC 224 GP PD
REF OUR DISCUSSION USE OF HERCULES PD APPROVAL TO USE ONE
HERCULES ON BORNEO SUPPORT HAS CREATED EXCELLENT FEELING HERE
PD DOING MOST VALUABLE WORK AND EXTRA CREW HAS BEEN ASKED FOR
PD HAVE JUST RETURNED 2 DAYS BORNEO AND OPERATIONS SERIOUS CMM
AND HEAVY LIFT CAPABILITY INSUFFICIENT PD IF SECOND HERCULES
COULD BE OFFERED TO RAF THIS WOULD BE TREMENDOUS HELP AND VERY
GREATLY APPRECIATED PD SUGGEST YOU DISCUSS WITH CAS CMM AND
CONSIDER AND IF POSSIBLE YOU TAKE INITIATIVE PD OPERATIONS
LIKELY TO GO ON FOR SOME TIME

12/12/1962.

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

49

46

KA

0.22572

Sent: 12th December, 1962
1500

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...1006

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2599

Brunei.

SECRET.

Following is repetition of telegram 396 dated 11th December, from Manila.

(take in text of I.31226)

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL FILE COPY
FOR INTERNAL U.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

48

KA

0.22571

Sent: 12th December, 1962
1500

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...1005

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2598

Brunei

CONFIDENTIAL.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 6086 dated 10th December, from London.

Begins:-

(Take in text of I.31186)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

LJH.

O. 22585.

TO:

Sent: 12th December, 1962.
1500.

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK... 1008.

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON... 2603.

Brunei Revolt

SECRET.

Following is repetition of telegram number 294 dated 11th December from Singapore.

Begins:

(Take in text I. 31259)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE.
P.M.'s.

12th December, 1962.

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DESTROY THE SOLE COPY
BUT ATTENTION E.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

KA

O.22588

Sent: 12th December, 1962
1500

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...1011

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2606

UNCLASSIFIED.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 973 dated 11th December from Djakarta,

Begins:-

(take in text of I.31285)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

Brunei Rebellion.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION U.N. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

42 cis

NNNNE

T IN

VZCZCCSE0018

~~MGA019~~

~~HH~~

~~RR RGVDAA~~

~~DE RGMPA 110630~~

R 111700GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

~~BT~~

S E C R E T SAC 26 BRUNEI SITUATION PD FOLLOWING DESPATCH TO MINDEF LONDON FROM C-IN-C FAR EAST BEGINS QUOTE SEACOS 69 PD SECRET PD SITREP ASIAT 101100Z PD FIRST PD ALFA PD BRUNEI CONTINUES QUIET PD BRAVO PD COMPANY AT MIRI REPORTED REBEL FORCE BELEIVED TO BE 300 STRONG IN AREA BUT NO CONTACT MADE PD REINFORCED BY ONE PLATOON AT 100750Z PD CHARLIE PD TWO PHASE ASSAULT BY QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS ON SERIA AT 100630Z PD BEVERLEY LANDED ANDUKI AIRFIELD WHICH FELL AFTER SHORT FIGHT PD SIMULTANEOUS FLY IN BY 60 MEN IN PIONEERS AT POINT WEST OF SERIA PD PENAGA POLICE SATION RELEIVED PD WEST END OF SERIA CLEAR OF REBELS BUT THEY STILL FIRMLY HOLD SERIA C ~~WA AT MIRI~~

1962 DEC 12 00:04

Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following— NOTED, CONCUR, CONFIRMED, NOT AGREED, APPROVED, REQUIRED, ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK), NOT APPROVED

ACTION 12 DEC 1962 COPY

PAGE TWO ~~RGMPA 110630~~

BESAR PD EFFORTS BEING MADE TO REINFORCE BUT ANDUKI AIRFIELD UNSERVICEABLE DUE TO RAIN PD NO DETAILS OF CASUALTIES PD DELTA PD KUALA BALAIT POLICE STATION SURRENDERED AT 100700Z AND REMAINS IN REBEL HANDS PD SECOND PD COMBRITFOR INTENTIONS PD ALFA PD CAPTURE SERIA AND EXPLOIT TO KUALA BELAIT PD BRAVO PD REINFORCE MIRI -LUTONG IF THREATENED PD CHARLIE PD RELIEVE INFANTRY ON AIRFIELD DUTIES WITH RN AND RAF REGT PD THIRD PD BRUNEI CURFEW WILL BE LIFTED FOR TWO HOURS PD UNQUOTE

BT

11/1024E

SECRET Defence

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

44

KA

O.22586

Sent: 12th December, 1962
1500

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...1009

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2604

CONFIDENTIAL.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 6092 dated 11th December from London.

Begins:-

(Take in text of I.31221)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

North Borneo

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

43

40

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

MEH

I.31259

FROM:

Dated: 11th December, 1962
2114
Rec'd: 12th December, 1962
0700

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

Brunei
~~Malaysia~~

294. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt.

Political Assessment.

While the considerable degree of planning and organisation of the revolt is apparent, the causes remain uncertain. The Party Rakyat contains many factions but are the only popularly based party in Brunei that had wide support. The incompetence and unprogressive nature of the Government and the administration, the disparity of wealth and poverty, and the efforts of the Sultan to retard Consitutional Government have been contributing factors in creating this support.

2. Nevertheless, Party Rakyat was well placed to gain eventual political power through normal domestic processes, the British actually entertained thoughts of getting Zahari's support by the prospect of a worthwhile political role in Malaysia.

3. It must be assumed that by background and temperament, Zahari was not attracted to the prospect of a useful but subordinate role in Malaysia. The heady Language of the Indonesian revolution seems to have struck a response amongst Brunei Malay elements. The idea of a North Borneo federation with a Zahari as Prime Minister, unrealistic as it sounds, was probably a serious goal for these strongly Nationalist elements.

4. There is no evidence of material aid from Indonesia for the revolt. Political links of some importance have clearly developed and there has been movement of groups of Borneo Malays' across the border for lengthy stays, according to some reports for military training. The extent of Indonesian instigation and complicity have not yet been determined, but our own judgment is that contacts appear to fall short of a definite politico-military understanding. Freshly captured documents in Brunei will, presumably, throw light on this.

5. Perhaps the Party Rakyat leaders felt sufficiently emboldened from their contacts that Indonesia would not let them down if the revolt succeeded. If they succeeded in the aim of capturing the Sultan and speaking in his name, they may have thought they could help the situation by an appeal to Indonesia which the British colonialists would have to reckon with.

6. Also, they may have believed that the Sultan and the Federation Government would push Brunei into Malaysia and immediately, thereafter, try and destroy the Party Rakyat.

7. Foregoing are our own tentative and speculative views.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR RECORD OF DIVISION

Secty

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

-2- I.31259

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

12th December, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

JRR

I.31221

FROM

SENT - 11TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1536
RECD - 12TH DECEMBER, 1962. 0148

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION,
LONDON.

6092 CONFIDENTIAL.

FROM EXTERNAL.

PARAGRAPH 1 MY 6037.

NORTH BORNEO.

PILCHER'S INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT AND PELAEZ ON 8TH DECEMBER WAS MADE NO EASIER BY BRUNEI REVOLT.

2.. PILCHER REPORTS PRESIDENT COUNTERED HIS ARGUMENTS FOR MALAYSIA BY SAYING ISLAND CHAIN FOUND COMFORT AND PROTECTION IN ISOLATION FROM MAINLAND - TO LINK BORNEO TERRITORIES WITH WEAK MAINLAND POWER, WHICH MIGHT EASILY BE OVERWHELMED BY RED CHINA, MEANT DANGER TO PHILIPPINES - MOREOVER SUKARNO HAD TOLD HIM ON 21ST NOVEMBER THAT FOR THESE REASONS HE WOULD NOT TOLERATE CREATION OF MALAYSIA.

PRESIDENT WOULD NOT BUDGE AND SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT INDONESIA WOULD BE STRONGER BULWARK THAN MALAYSIA - ON THE OTHER HAND HE SAID HE HAD NOT MADE UP HIS MIND WHETHER TO SUPPORT INDEPENDENT STATE IN BRUNEI OR NOT.

3.. PRESIDENT LOOKED FORWARD HOWEVER TO TALKS WITH BRITAIN WITHOUT COMMITMENT IN A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION.

TALKS COULD BE ANNOUNCED AS BEING ON FUTURE SNAGS OF AREA - JURISDICTION AND SOVEREIGNTY WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY CROP UP BUT HE DID NOT NECESSARILY INSIST ON THIS.

PELAEZ WOULD REPRESENT PHILIPPINES.

4.. AGAINST BACKGROUND OF BRUNEI REVOLT, PRESIDENT'S LACK OF SYMPATHY FOR MALAYA AND HIS PLEASURE AT SUKARNO'S ATTITUDE, PILCHER QUESTIONS WHAT STRATEGIC TALKS COULD ACHIEVE AT PRESENT.

EASTMAN.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S.

12TH DECEMBER, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

TELEPRINTER MESSAGE FROM DEFENCE, CANBERRA TO DEFENCE, MELBOURNE.

Brunei file

11th December, 1962.

To the Minister

From the Secretary

As advised previously the Air Staff signalled an enquiry on Sunday night to Singapore as to how long FEAF wanted the use of the Hercules and how many sorties were proposed to Labuan.

2. The reply from Singapore stated that the British would be grateful for the maximum sorties and hours. They will release the aircraft at the earliest date practicable; this is not known definitely at this stage, but could be in 14 days. Or they will release it when Australia requests.

3. The Air Staff have arranged to keep a close check on the flying hours and usage of the aircraft, and will review the position toward the end of this week, so that a decision can be taken about its future use. Its present employment is not causing any inconvenience to the R.A.A.F.

1. Sen by Sunday Dec 12
2. Chairman COS
3. Chairman JPC 14/12
4. Cdr Bletchman
5. Cdr Poyser 14/12
6. File -

Copies sent to:-
D.C.A.S.
Cdr Brennan

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

British Defence Liaison Staff,
~~United Kingdom Joint Services Liaison Staff,~~
Department of Defence,
Canberra, A.C.T.

BDLS/1650

11th December, 1962

SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

CHAIRMAN,
AUSTRALIAN CHIEFS OF STAFF

SECRETARY,
JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE (AUST.)

BRUNEI SITUATION

Enclosure : Text of JIC 732 of 10th December, 1962

I am requested by the Joint Intelligence Committee (London) to forward to you the enclosure on the Brunei Situation.

(T.W. STOCKER)
Captain, R.N.
for HEAD OF STAFF

FAS(A)

The Minister
For information
Thank you
13/12/62

Chandler
for Sec
11-12-62

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

SECRET

35

NNNNAV

V2CZCCSE010

C12/3330

ZCZCHOA015MA 054

~~KJSA161~~

~~AEB~~

~~UH~~

~~RR RGYDJA~~

DE RGMRA ~~110620~~

R 111700GH

FM AUSTDEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

~~BT~~

1962 DEC 11 23:47

A Paraphrase NOT required — NO unclassified reply other than one of the following:— YES. AGREED. CONCUR. CONFIRMED. NO. NOT AGREED. APPROVED. RECEIVED. REPLY. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK). NOT APPROVED.

S E C R E T SAC 27 SPECIAL JPC MEETING TO DISCUSS FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN BRUNEI PD MEETING CALLED TO ISSUE DIRECTIVE TO JOINT PLANNING STAFF TO PREPARE PAPERS ON THE FOLLOWING (A) THE SITUATION IN BORNEO DURING THE NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS (B) THE SITUATION IN BORNEO TO THE END OF AUGUST 1963 (C) THE EFFECT ON THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION IN SINGAPORE (D) IMPLICATIONS OF BRUNEI OPERATIONS OR OTHER UK PLANS PD THESE PAPERS TO BE PREPARED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY AND SUBMITTED TO THE JPC

~~BT~~

11/1024Z

Defence

ACTION 12 DEC

COPY

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

VZCZCCSE0014

PTI

SECRET

34

C12/3309

1962 DEC 11 23:53

JSA163

V

[redacted]

[redacted]

D[redacted]

R 111650GH

FM AUST DEF SINGAPORE

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

[redacted]

F14

S E C R E T SAC 25 OPERATIONS IN BRUNEI PD SINGAPORES TELEGRAM 293 TO EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DATED 10 DEC ALSO REFERS PD COMMAND STRUCTURE AS FOLLOWS PD (A) JOINT HEADQUARTERS WITH THREE SERVICES REPRESENTED AND UK POLITICAL ADVISER FROM SINGAPORE UNDER COMMANDER-IN-CHEF FAR EAST INITIALLY ESTABLISHED AT LABUAN AND NOW MOVED TO BRUNEI TOWN PD THIS JOINT HEADQUARTERS COMMANDS 99 BRIGADE WHICH HAS UNDER COMMAND THE OPERATIONAL UNITS PD (B) TROOPS ON THE GROUND AS FOLLOWS PD GURKHA BATTALION AT BRUNEI TOWN WITH COMPANY AT MIRI PD QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS SERIA AREA WITH COMPANY LABUAN PD OTER MAJOR UNITS NO YET DEPLOYED P(C) ENEMY PD DETAILS OF REBEL FORCES

~~UC WA COMMANDER -IN-CHIEF~~

~~OTHA DEPLOYED SO~~

Personnel NOT required — [illegible] other than one of the following— YES AGREED. CONCUR. NO NOT AGREED. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACIO.

ACTION
12 DEC 1962
COPY

National Archives of Australia

NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

TO DEFENCE CANBERRA

[redacted]

F14

S E C R E T SAC 25 OPERATIONS IN BRUNEI PD SINGAPORES TELEGRAM 293 TO EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DATED 10 DEC ALSO REFERS PD COMMAND STRUCTURE AS FOLLOWS PD (A) JOINT HEADQUARTERS WITH THREE SERVICES REPRESENTED AND UK POLITICAL ADVISER FROM SINGAPORE UNDER COMMANDER-IN-CHEF FAR EAST INITIALLY ESTABLISHED AT LABUAN AND NOW MOVED TO BRUNEI TOWN PD THIS JOINT HEADQUARTERS COMMANDS 99 BRIGADE WHICH HAS UNDER COMMAND THE OPERATIONAL UNITS PD (B) TROOPS ON THE GROUND AS FOLLOWS PD GURKHA BATTALION AT BRUNEI TOWN WITH COMPANY AT MIRI PD QUEENS OWN HIGHLANDERS SERIA AREA WITH COMPANY LABUAN PD OTER MAJOR UNITS NO YET DEPLOYED P(C) ENEMY PD DETAILS OF REBEL FORCES ~~NO WA COMMANDER -IN-CHIEF~~

~~(FWA DEPLOYED (C)~~

Paraphrase NOT required — NIL or other than one of the following— YES: AGREED. CONCUR. NO: NOT AGREED. APPR. ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK).

ACTION
12 DEC 1962
COPY

~~C CO SSO F E E E E E E~~ PAGE TWO ~~RCMP A 110591~~

QU ERY (VERY?) SKETCHY AND ESTIMATED NUMBERS VARY CONSIDERABLY PD HOPE TO OBTAIN MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION AT SPECIAL JIC MEETING 12 DE C (D) COMMUNICATIONS PD WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS WERE MST DIFFICULT INITIALLY BUT ARE NOW IMPROVING (E) USE OF C130S PD ONE TRIP COMPLETED 10 DEC AND ONE PLANNED FOR 11 DEC PD WILL FORWARD SIGNAL DAILY IN FUTURE

~~BT~~

11/1024Z

Defence

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

33

SECRET

MEH

0.22510

TO:

Dated: 11th December, 1962
1740

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...995

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2582

SECRET

Brunei Revolt

Following is repetition of telegram No. 293 dated 10th December from Singapore.

Begins:

(Take in text of I.31140).

Ends.

E.A. (3030/2/1)
DEFENCE
P.M's

11th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

32

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

IM

I.31225

FROM:

Dated: 11th December, 1962.
1950

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

Rec'd: 11th December, 1962.
2114

395 UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei.

1. In Press statement yesterday (copy by bag) British Embassy outlined need to fulfil obligations under the 1959 Treaty with Sultan of Brunei requesting assistance, stated only minimum forces required to achieve objective would be used, stressed continued support in Sarawak and North Borneo for Malaysia and unanimous condemnation by political leaders there of Azahari's policies.

2. In answer to press questions yesterday British Ambassador

(a) Said he was unaware that rebels were receiving arms from Indonesia with whom Britain was on friendly terms,

(b) Side-stepped a direct question as to whether Britain had formally protested against the presence of Azahari in the Philippines. He referred to Filipino Nationalist leaders taking refuge in Hong Kong in 1898.

(c) Said he did not intend to contact Azahari.

(d) Denied that Azahari was a communist but said he lent to the left and was supported by left-wing socialists in Singapore who were opposed to the Federation of Malaysia. He mentioned Azahari was not even a Brunei citizen (he believed he was from Sarawak).

3. Press reports Azahari has-

(a) Appealed to Kennedy, Sukarno, Nehru, Nasser, Ben Bella and Macapagal, to support his 'Government'.

(b) Denied United States reports linking the revolt with communism and deplored Malayan Prime Minister's action in sending Police force to Brunei.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

12th December, 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION OF

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

31

KA

I.31285

DATED 11TH DECEMBER, 1962
1751

FROM:

REC'D 12TH DECEMBER, 1962
0600

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
DJAKARTA.

973. UNCLASSIFIED.

BRUNEI REBELLION.

UNDER HEADING, " NEW EMERGING FORCES IN BRUNEI WILL TRIUMPH," ANTARA REPORTED PRESIDENT SUKARNO AS HAVING STATED ON 10TH DECEMBER DURING COURSE OF ADDRESS AT STATE BANQUET HONOURING VISITING YUGOSLAV VICE-PRESIDENT THAT THE PRESENT UPHEAVAL IN NORTH BORNEO CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE NEW EMERGING FORCES OF THE WORLD THIS MOVEMENT IS CERTAIN TO END IN VICTORY THE WHOLE WORLD STRUCTURE WILL THEN BE CHANGED AND ALL MEN WILL THEN LIVE HAPPILY. ANTARA REPORTED ABDULGANI AS HAVING EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE INDONESIAN PRESS WILL SUPPORT THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLES REVOLT IN BRUNEI.THE ASSOCIATION OF WEST KALIMANTAN STUDENTS IN DJAKARTA HAS REQUESTED PRESIDENT SUKARNO TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF NORTH BORNEO IN THE REVOLT AGAINST BRITISH IMPERIALISM WHICH TRIES TO EMPLOY MALAYSIA AS ITS TOOL. PARTINDO PARTY HAS CABLED THE BRUNEI PARTY RAAYAT EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ITS CAUSE. THE INDONESIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT (GPI) HAS ASSOCIATED ITSELF WITH THIS STATEMENT. ALL NEWSPAPERS HAVE REPORTED THE REVOLT UNDER FRONT PAGE HEADLINES. EDITORIALS IN "MERDEKA", "WARTA BHAKTI" AND "HARIAN RAKYAT" HAVE TAKEN THE LINE THAT THE MOTIVE FOR THE REVOLT IS THE PEOPLES REJECTION OF THE BRITISH PLAN TO FORCE NORTH BORNEO TO JOIN THE MALAYSIA FEDERATION. (MERDEKA) "HARIAN RAKJAT" SAYS THAT IT IS NOW TIME FOR THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ITS STAND AND SHOW HOW SINCERELY IT OPPOSES IMPERIALISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM. THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE REVOLT CANNOT BE INDONESIA'S FRIENDS. "MERDEKA" SAYS THAT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT INDONESIA WILL HAVE TO MOBILISE WORLD OPINION AND GIVE OTHER EFFECTIVE AID TO THE REBELS.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12TH DECEMBER, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION N.T. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

30

IM

INWARD CABLEGRAM I.31253

FROM:

Dated: 11th December, 1962.
1710

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

Rec'd: 12th December, 1962.
0830

438 CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Singapore 29.

Brunei Revolt.

Following paragraphs 2-6 are main points of Malayan J.O.C. appreciation of Brunei revolt 2100 hours Monday.

2. J.O.C. report notes rapid build up of British forces in Brunei town, Miri and outskirts of Seria. Brunei town remained in Government hands though sniping occurred yesterday in some parts of town. Recapture of Seria was not complete. Rebels still held oil installations and some residential areas but had lost airport. The expected rebel attack had not yet occurred. Weston (which had fallen) was recaptured by police forces from Jesselton. Location of rebels thought moving towards Jesselton still not known. Rebels controlled Kuala Belait, some towns in Brunei hinterland and fifth division of Sarawak and possibly some coastal villages to west of Miri.

3. Other reliable information available following re-establishment of communications showed report of rebel possession of land mines was incorrect but use of automatic weapons confirmed at least in oil fields area. Leading part of one company only of Ghurkas suffered heavy casualties in ambush.

4. British plan to bring a battalion from Britain to Brunei.

5. While agreement was that other aspects of uprising were well planned and executed, rebels failed badly in attempt to seize Brunei town (and particularly the Sultan) on which their plan probably depended. Sultan apparently is living in gaol as the safest place.

6. J.O.C. says that radio message from rebels asking for Phillipines and Indonesian help has been intercepted.

7. Tunku has now said that Malaya can give assistance to Brunei "only in a civilian capacity". He added that police jungle squad was offered to keep public order not for Military operations.

8. There is evidence that Brunei Regiment was withheld because of doubts as to its trustworthiness.

9. Socialist Front and P.M.I.P. spokesmen have condemned Government for opposing the struggle of Brunei people against British Colonialism.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

Secty

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

12th December, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

29

MT

0.22600

TO:

Dated 11th December, 1962
1700
Rec'd

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....1013.

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON.

SECRET.

Following is repetition of telegram Un-numbered dated 11th December from Kuala Lumpur.

Begins:

(Take in text of I.31091)

Ends.

E.A. (3030/2/1)
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

Revolt

Brunei

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

28

MT

O.22483

TO:

Dated 11th December, 1962
1514

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON....2579.

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....993.

UNCLASSIFIED.

Following telegram received from Manila.

Begins:

394. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei Insurrection.

Following is text of Statement issued last night by Vice-President Pelaez:-

"I reported to the President the situation in Brunei on the basis of information so far available. The Department of Foreign Affairs will continue to follow up developments.

Regarding the published association of Commissioner Hermenegildo Atienza with Brunei leaders now in Manila, any such association has no official character. I was informed by the President that Mr. Atienza ceased to be Malacanang Legal Adviser when he was recently appointed to the Reparations Commission.

The aforesaid Brunei leaders have had no official dealings with the Philippines Government. They are in the Philippines reportedly in transit to the United Nations in New York."

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

11th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEFENCE

FOL. 27

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

MEH

0.22515

TO:

Dated: 11th December, 1962
2000

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...997

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2585

SECRET. Brunei

Following is repetition of telegram No. 968 dated 10th December from Djakarta.

Begins:

(Take in text of I.31163)

Ends.

E.A. (3030/2/1)
DEFENCE
P.M's

11th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. BROWN

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

248/5/6 DEFENCE

FOlio 260

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

MT

0.22573

TO:

Dated 11th December, 1962
1500

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK.....1007.

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON....2600

UNCLASSIFIED. Brunei.

Following is repetition of telegram 395, dated 11th December from Manila.

Begins: (Take in text of I.31225)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

25

MT

O.22488

TO:

Dated 11th December, 1962
1500

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

584. CONFIDENTIAL.

Your 293. Evacuation of Aus'ns from Brunei

Please forward urgently as they become available any details regarding Australians in affected areas and advise whether they are being, or could be, evacuated.

MIN. & DEPT E.A. (1520/16/31)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

11th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

24

MT

I.31091

FROM:

Dated 11th December, 1962
1500
Rec'd 11th December, 1962
1943

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

U/N. SECRET.

Brunei Revolt.

Following paragraphs 2-5 are main points passed to us orally and in strict confidence of Malayan J.O.C. appreciation of Brunei revolt at 2100 hours Sunday. They indicate that press reports and offical statements have not revealed extent of operations or strength of rebels.

2. Rebels are estimated at several thousand (possibly 5,000) along 90 miles of coastline from region east of Beaufort in North Borneo to west of Miri in Sarawak. However, Beaufort and Weston may not have been taken, Miri, almost certainly not. Brunei town itself is no longer immediately threatened. At least part of Seria has been recaptured. Location of rebel forces earlier thought to be moving towards Jesselton is not known. There is evidence of fanning out with possible intention to disperse into hinderland.

3. Uprising was apparently well co-ordinated with simultaneous seizure of Police stations and most other means of radio communication. Rebels contacted are in uniform and well armed with modern automatic weapons and even land mines not "shotguns and knives" as in several offical statements. (No name has been put to source of weapons but understand both Filipino and P.K.I. sources were mentioned in discussions with opinion inclined to the latter supplied via Tarakan.

4. Rebel casualties are put at over 100 with 500 captured. Guarding of prisioners has become problem for limited Government forces. Local Police casualties are light but one and possibly both companies of Ghurkas from Singapore were ambushed on road to Seria with heavy casualties.

5. Government forces will be reinforced by further British Units from Singapore totaling approximately 1,500 men including (probably) Commando units on Cruiser "Tiger" already in the area. There is concern at depletion of British strength in Singapore and units from Penang will move to Singapore today. First Malay regiment has been alerted for possible Borneo service and fourth Malay for possible move to Singapore. However, Malayans, are wary of political repercussions in either step (in the case of Brunei because of known bad feeling between Brunei and Malayan Malays.)

6. 150 men from Malayan police jungle units will be flown to Brunei reportedly at request of Brunei Government.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.P. ...2/

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

7. Malayans decided yesterday to send Brunei regiment to Brunei but decision was later reversed apparently by Tunku himself. Reason is not clear.

8. Families of Malayans serving in Brunei have been evacuated.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

12th December, 1962

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

23

LJH.

O. 22497.

TO:

Sent: 11th December, 1962.
1500.

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

585. SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Brunei Revolt.

Thank you for your helpful 293. It is not clear whether Fry saw Ong in Singapore or Sarawak. If he is not in Sarawak we would like you to send him or another suitable officer to Borneo territories to report developments and particularly to see to welfare of Australians.

MIN. & DEPT E.A. (3030/2/1)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M.'s.

11th December, 1962.

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DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION U.F. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

22

IM

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.31226

FROM:

Dated: 11th December, 1962.
1400

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

Rec'd: 11th December, 1962.
2200

396 SECRET.

Brunei.

Our 395.

British Embassy informed McCredie this morning that the British Ambassador made the following points in interview with Pelaez on the 11th December:-

(a) Brunei has enjoyed complete internal self-government, Alahari could have operated legitimately within the state. He had no appreciable support in Sarawak or North Borneo,

(b) Phillipine support for Azahari would greatly offend Britan. He mentioned unfortunate implications for the Seato alliance,

(c) Azahari's passport had been cancelled.

Pelaez was non-committal.

2. Pelaez reportedly conferred yesterday with the Indonesian Ambassador at the Embassy and with Atienza (our telegram 392) at the Foreign Office. The "Manila Chronicle" only, reports that the Indonesian Ambassador indicated to Pelaez that Indonesia would support the Borneo struggle "in context of Bandung declaration."

3. The British Embassy is unable to verify "Chronicle" report but they have confirmation through the Phillippines Intelligence Service of closest collaberation between Azahari, the Indonesian Embassy and Nick Osmena in Manila. Hardojo, the Indonesian Counsellor, is known to have helped in drafting Azahari's statement. The Embassy states Azahari spent greater part of November in Manila. He returned to Singapore but fled to Manila last week on the eve of a security drive in which he would have been arrested. The Embassy believes this triggered off the revolt in Brunei.

4. Malayan Ambassador was recalled to Kuala Lumpur yesterday for a weeks consultation. The Embassy told Sadler last night that Malayan intention was to proceed with Malaysia with or without Brunei. They expressed confidence that the Phillippines would not take action which might prejudice ASA. Manila presss "(Times" and "Bulletin) this morning warn against hasty Filipino involvement" in Brunei dispute.

Lee.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

12th December, 1962.

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FOR REGISTRY USE ONLY

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DEFENCE 248/5/6

FAS(B) 11/12

21

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

MEH

0.22469

TO:

Dated: 11th December, 1962
1400

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...992

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2578

SECRET Brunei

Following is repetition of telegrams 391 and 394 dated 10th December, 1962 from Manila.

(Take in text ot I.31093 and I.31094)

Ends.

E.A. (3030/2/1)
DEFENCE
P.M's

11th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

20

INWARD TELEGRAM

FROM: MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WELLINGTON

TO: NEW ZEALAND COMMISSION, SINGAPORE NO. 454
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION, KUALA LUMPUR NO. 257
NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY, BANGKOK NO. 433
NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY, WASHINGTON NO. 730
NEW ZEALAND PERMANENT MISSION, NEW YORK NO. 358
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON. NO. 2809
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION, CANBERRA NO. 771

DATED: 10 DECEMBER 1962 1650

RECD: 10 DECEMBER 1962 1730

No. 771

Following statement issued 10 December:

Begins

The Prime Minister (Rt Hon. Keith Holyoake) said this evening that the Government had agreed in principle that No. 41 Squadron of the RNZAF, which was a part of the Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve and stationed at Singapore, might be used to ferry British troops to Brunei in the current crisis. He explained that the squadron came under the command of the British Far East Air Force: how soon it would be called upon for this task he was unable to say. The squadron was still virtually in the process of returning from Thailand, though it would no doubt be able to turn round quickly.

Mr Holyoake went on to say that New Zealand had a number of Colombo Plan experts in Sarawak and North Borneo but not in Brunei. All in all, however, there were something over one hundred New Zealand men, women and children in the three territories, in one capacity or another. The New Zealand Commissioner in Singapore knew where these people were and had already been in touch with the British authorities about the likelihood of evacuation becoming necessary. So far, it appeared, the people on the spot had not felt that organized evacuation was called for. The Government would of course receive regular reports from the Commissioner, Mr Wade, on this and other aspects of the situation.

Ends

Mr Sandon 13/12

EXTERNAL

Ch COSCAU
Ch JPC 17/12
Chairman on leave to 2 Jan 62 19/12
Chairman
Mr Boyer 17/12.
File

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

19

ED.

INWARD CABLEGRAM

A.3190.

DATED. 10TH DECEMBER, 1962.
2011.
REC'D. 11TH DECEMBER, 1962.
1748.

FROM.

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

1. Brunei
~~2. Malaysia~~

UN1916. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

WASHINGTON FOR INFORMATION, OTTAWA SAV 1162, LONDON SAV 1290.

NORTH BORNEO AND BRUNEI.

NOTHING HAS BEEN ATTEMPTED IN ANY UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE TODAY IN REGARD TO THE REBILLION IN BRUNEI.

2. MALAYAN MISSION HAS BEEN ACTIVE AMONG DELEGATIONS, PARTICULARLY AFRO ASIANS, AND ALSO SAW NARASIMHAN (UNITED NATIONS UNDER SECRETARY).

MALAYAN MISSION HAS BEEN MAKING THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO ALL THESE.

(A) CLAIM OF REBEL ARMY IS FALSE THAT THEY HAVE AGREEMENT OF SULTAN TO BE HEAD OF STATE.

SULTAN HIMSELF HAS DENIED THIS AND HAS BANNED BRUNEI PEOPLE'S PARTY.

(B) REBELLION HAS NO CONNEXION WITH THE MALAYSIA PROPOSALS.

AT LONDON DISCUSSIONS ONLY SARAWAK, NORTH BORNEO, AND SINGAPORE WERE INCLUDED AND IT WAS LEFT UP TO SULTAN OF BRUNEI TO DECIDE WHETHER TO JOIN (THOUGH OF COURSE HIS ACCESSION IS HOPED FOR).

PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYA HAS SAID IT IS UP TO BRUNEI.

SULTAN FAVOURS JOINING BUT HAS GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT HE WILL CONSULT HIS PEOPLE.

(C) AZAHARI'S CLAIMS ARE FALSE THAT HIS ARMY HAS CAPTURED TOWNS IN SARAWAK AND NORTH BORNEO.

HIS ACTIONS ARE CONFINED TO BRUNEI.

(D) ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN NORTH BORNEO HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR MALAYSIA.

IN SARAWAK THE STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED A RESOLUTION IN OCTOBER FAVOURING MALAYSIA (BUT THERE IS A POLITICAL PARTY WHICH IS OPPOSED TO MALAYSIA).

(E) THE POLITICAL LEADERS IN NORTH BORNEO AND SARAWAK HAVE CONDEMNED THE UPRISING AND DISSOCIATED THEMSELVES FROM IT.

3. SIR PATRICK DEAN (U.K. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE) IS TO SEE U THANT THIS AFTERNOON.

HE WILL MAKE SOME OF THE FOREGOING POINTS AND IN ADDITION WILL GIVE THANT A COPY OF A STATEMENT THAT HAS BEEN MADE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM PARLIAMENT TODAY.

4. NARASIMHAN SHOWED THE MALAYANS IN CONFIDENCE A TELEGRAM THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS RECEIVED FROM AZAHARI ASKING FOR

2...

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR REFERENCE N.B. BORROW

Secty

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

18A

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ED. INWARD CABLEGRAM 131190.

- 2 -

UNITED NATIONS PRESENCE AND SEEKING UNITED NATIONS RECOGNITION. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS DECIDED NOT TO TAKE ANY COGNIZANCE OF IT FOR THE TIME BEING.
(PLEASE SAFEGUARD THIS PARAGRAPH.)

5. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS INDICATED TO THE UNITED KINGDOM THAT IT WILL NOT GIVE A VISA TO AZAHARI TO COME TO NEW YORK.

6. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING TELEGRAM CONTAINS TEXT OF A PAPER PASSED TO SECRETARY GENERAL TODAY BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYA.

PLIMSOLL.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M'S.

12TH DECEMBER, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION A.T. STANDIN

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

18

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

ED. I.31211.

DATED. 10TH DECEMBER, 1962.
2120.
REC'D. 11TH DECEMBER, 1962.
2246.

FROM.

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

UN1917. UNCLASSIFIED.

WASHINGTON FOR INFORMATION, OTTAWA SAV 1163, LONDON SAV 1291.

BRUNEI.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF A PAPER PASSED TODAY TO U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYA.

BEGINS -

THE COUP DE MAIN IN BRUNEI ON DECEMBER 7TH WAS TRIGGERED AND PLANNED BY A.M. AZAHARI WITH THE HELP OF AN UNDERGROUND BODY CALLING THEMSELVES THE NORTH BORNEO NATIONAL ARMY.

IN A STATEMENT IN MANILA, AZAHARI CLAIMED THAT THE REBELS HAVE SIEZED POLICE STATIONS IN 20 TOWNS OF NORTH BORNEO, SARAWAK AND BRUNEI.

THIS CLAIM IS WITHOUT FOUNDATION SINCE IN ACTUAL FACT THERE WAS NO DISTURBANCE IN EITHER SARAWAK OR NORTH BORNEO EXCEPT IN WESTON IN NORTH BORNEO NEAR BRUNEI BORDER WHERE AN EXCHANGE OF FIRE TOOK PLACE WITHOUT ANY CASUALTIES.

LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT ORDER HAD BEEN COMPLETELY RESTORED IN THE CAPITAL OF BRUNEI WHICH IS FIRMLY UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

IN A STATEMENT IN MANILA, A.M. AZAHARI CLAIMED THAT THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI HAD PROCLAIMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "UNITED STATES OF NORTH BORNEO" BY RAISING A NEW FLAG WITH THE SULTAN HIMSELF AS THE HEAD OF STATE.

THIS AGAIN IS A DELIBERATE FALSEHOOD, AS THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI HIMSELF IN A BROADCAST OVER BRUNEI RADIO TO HIS PEOPLE ON 8TH DECEMBER PROMISED STERN MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST THE REBELS.

HE WENT ON TO SAY "REBELS HAD COERCED OTHERS SAYING THEY HAD MY ROYAL APPROVAL."

BRUNEI IS A SULTANATE UNDER THE PROTECTORATE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT.

IT COVERS 2,226 SQUARE MILES WITH A POPULATION OF APPROXIMATELY 80,000.

IT IS DISTINCT FROM THE TERRITORIES OF SARAWAK AND NORTH BORNEO WHICH ARE CROWN COLONIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE INSURGENCE IN BRUNEI IS NOT CONNECTED WITH THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA.

THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA HAS REITERATED THAT IT IS FOR BRUNEI TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO JOIN THE FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA.

2...

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

ED. I.31211.

THE JOINT STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN AND PRIME MINISTER MACMILLAN ISSUED IN LONDON ON 1ST AUGUST, 1962 CONCERNING THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE FORMATION OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA, DEFINITELY STATED THAT THE AGREEMENT REFERRED TO THE TERRITORIES OF SINGAPORE, NORTH BORNEO AND SARAWAK.

AS REGARDS BRUNEI, THE STATEMENT STATED "THE BRITISH AND MALAYAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE INFORMED THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI OF THE AGREEMENT THEY HAVE REACHED AND HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WILL WELCOME THE INCLUSION OF THE STATE OF BRUNEI IN THE NEW FEDERATION."

THE INSURGENCE IN BRUNEI IS INDICIATIVE OF THE FACT THAT A.M. AZAHARI BY PROCLAIMING HIMSELF THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF THE SO CALLED "UNITED STATES OF NORTH BORNEO" IS MOTIVATED BY AN AMBITION TO TAKE OVER THE TWO BRITISH CROWN COLONIES OF SARAWAK AND NORTH BORNEO WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF THE PEOPLES OF THESE TERRITORIES.

ALL THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN NORTH BORNEO HAVE UNEQUIVOCALLY EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR MALAYSIA.

THERE IS PRACTICALLY NO DISSENTING VOICE.

THE UNITED SABAH KADAZAN ORGANISATION, THE UNITED NATIONAL SABAH ORGANISATION, THE BORNEO UTARA NATIONAL PARTY, PASOK MOMOGUN PARTY AND THE NORTH BORNEO INDIAN CONGRESS HAVE FORMED AN ALLIANCE AND HAVE ENDORSED MALAYSIA COMPLETELY.

THIS SABAH ALLIANCE PARTY REPRESENTS EVERY SECTION OF THE POPULATION OF NORTH BORNEO.

AS REGARDS SARAWAK, THE COUNCIL NEGRI (STATE COUNCIL) WHICH HAS AN ELECTED MAJORITY, HAS RECENTLY PASSED A MOTION FAVOURING THE INCLUSION OF SARAWAK IN THE FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA.

POLITICAL LEADERS IN SARAWAK AND NORTH BORNEO HAVE CONDEMNED THE UPRISING AND HAVE DISSOCIATED THEMSELVES FROM IT.

ENDS.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M'S.

12TH DECEMBER, 1962.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

17

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

JRR

I.31186

SENT - 10TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1926

RECD - 11TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1845

FROM

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON.

6086 CONFIDENTIAL.

FROM EXTERNAL.

BRUNEI.

GOLDS(C.R.O.) ADMITTED TODAY THAT REBELLION HAD CAUGHT WHITEHALL BY SURPRISE AND THAT ITS INTELLIGENCE HAD BEEN (AND STILL WAS) "UNSPECTACULAR".

AS SANDYS ADMITTED IN HOUSE TODAY THERE HAD BEEN BUILD-UP OF INDICATORS OVER PRECEDING 10 DAYS BUT THESE RESEMBLED EARLIER FALSE ALARMS AND HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY.

2. LATEST ESTIMATE IS THAT REBEL FORCE MAY BE AS LARGE AS 5,000 IN BRUNEI ITSELF WITH A FEW MORE IN SMALL CONTIGUOUS POCKETS OF SARAWAK AND NORTH BORNEO.

MILITARY FORECAST IS CAUTIOUS BUT INCLINED TO VIEW THAT REVOLT IN MAIN CENTRES WILL BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL FAIRLY SOON.

AS MOST OF REBELS ARE BELIEVED TO BE SOFT-FOOTED KAMPONG MALAYS, CONTINUANCE OF SERIOUS HARASSMENT FROM JUNGLE BASES SEEMS UNLIKELY.

3. SANDYS ADMITTED IN HOUSE TODAY THAT SOME OF REBEL FORCE HAD BEEN TRAINED "OUTSIDE BRUNEI".

GOLDS SAID THAT THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF TRAFFIC TO AND FROM INDONESIAN BORNEO (PRESUMABLY FOR TRAINING) BUT NO EVIDENCE YET AS TO WHETHER INDONESIAN BORNEANS HAD PARTICIPATED IN REVOLT.

WHITEHALL DID NOT WANT TO PUSH INDONESIANS INTO PUBLIC SUPPORT OF REVOLT AND WOULD THEREFORE FOR THE TIME BEING PLAY DOWN ANY KNOWLEDGE OF INDONESIAN PARTICIPATION.

GOLDS REFERRED TO MACAPAGAL'S RECENT FETING OF AZAHARI AND RECENT MACAPAGAL-SUKARNO MEETING., HE WONDERED WHETHER THERE WAS MORE THAN MET THE EYE BUT JUST DID NOT KNOW.

4. GOLDS BELIEVED THAT, DESPITE TITLE OF AZAHARI'S REVOLT, IT WOULD HAVE NO REAL SUPPORT IN NORTH BORNEO OR SARAWAK.

AZAHARI'S FOLLOWERS WERE BRUNEI MALAYS, BUT MALAYS IN OTHER TWO TERRITORIES WERE CHIEF PROTAGONISTS OF MALAYSIA.

5. ON POLITICAL SIDE GOLDS AGREED THAT OCCURRENCE OF REVOLT DID NO GOOD FOR CAUSE OF MALAYSIA BUT HE WAS RELUCTANT TO COMMENT FURTHER AT THIS STAGE.

WHITEHALL IS TRYING TO GET AZAHARI'S BRITISH AND MALAYAN PASSPORTS CANCELLED AND TO PERSUADE UNITED STATES TO REFUSE VISA.

GOLDS AGREED THAT IF AZAHARI COULD GET TO NEW YORK HE COULD PERSONALLY STIR UP UNITED NATIONS TROUBLE BUT WHITEHALL

2/.....

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

26A

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

-2- I.31186

HOPED THAT MALAYA (PERHAPS WITH INDIAN HELP) COULD BREAK UP AFRO-ASIAN FRONT ON THE QUESTION.

GOLDS REPEATED THAT, ON POLITICAL SIDE, IT WAS JUST TOO EARLY TO SAY.

EASTMAN.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's.

12TH NOVEMBER, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTI-

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

16

INWARD CABLEGRAM

TM. 1.31181.

FROM:

DATED. 10TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1910.
REC'D. 11TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1538

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3332. SECRET.

(CANBERRA PLEASE PASS SINGAPORE, DJAKARTA)
REPEATED LONDON 912, U.N.NEW YORK.

FROM MUNRO.

BRUNEI.

AFTER DISCUSSING WEST NEW GUINEA AGREEMENT (MY 3325) I ASKED BELL (DIRECTOR SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AFFAIRS) ON 10TH DECEMBER WHETHER STATE DEPARTMENT HAD MADE AN EVALUATION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE INSURGENCY IN BRUNEI.

I MENTIONED THAT WE HAD HEARD THAT AZAHARI AND SOME OF HIS ASSOCIATES HAD BEEN IN RECENT AND CLOSE CONTACT WITH INDONESIANS AND THAT THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE USING INDONESIAN SLOGANS AND JARGON.

ORIGIN OF EQUIPMENT USED BY THE REBELS WAS ALSO A MATTER FOR SPECULATION.

2. BELL SAID THAT AZAHARI HAD LIVED IN INDONESIA FROM 1940 TO 1952, HAD BEEN EDUCATED THERE AND HAD FOUGHT WITH THE INDONESIANS AGAINST THE DUTCH.

HE WAS ALSO KNOWN TO BE CLOSE TO CERTAIN LEFT WING ELEMENTS IN INDONESIA.

BELL SAID DEPARTMENT HAD NO HARD EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN INVOLVEMENT WITH THE REBELS AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL EVALUATION OF THE SITUATION.

SINCE THERE WAS NO UNITED STATES REPRESENTATION ANYWHERE IN BORNEO AMERICAN INFORMATION WAS SECOND-HAND.

BELL COMMENTED THAT HE HAD BEEN TRYING FOR SOME TIME TO HAVE A UNITED STATES CONSULATE OPENED SOMEWHERE IN NORTH BORNEO BUT THAT STATE DEPARTMENT RESOURCES HAD NOT, SO FAR, PERMITTED THIS.

3. I SAID I UNDERSTOOD THAT YOU HAD ALSO CONSIDERED ESTABLISHING AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION IN THE AREA.

4. BELL AGREED THAT INDONESIAN ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS IN NORTH BORNEO SHOULD BE WATCHED CLOSELY.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFEMCE.
P.M's.

11TH DECEMBER, 1962.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

Secy

SECRET SECRET SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

15

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

TM.

I.31178.

FROM:

DATED. 10TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1845.
REC'D. 11TH DECEMBER, 1962. 1346.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

3330. SECRET. PRIORITY.

CANBERRA PLEASE PASS SINGAPORE, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA).
REPEATED LONDON 910, AUSTUNAT.

BRUNEI REVOLT.

STATE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION IS MUCH THE SAME AS WHAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED FROM SINGAPORE AND KUALA LUMPUR AND APPEARS TO BE BASED ON SAME (BRITISH) SOURCES.
ONLY ADDITIONAL POINT MADE BY MOSCOTTI (MALAYA-SINGAPORE AFFAIRS) ON 10TH DECEMBER WAS THAT SELKIRK HAD INFORMED U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL SINGAPORE THAT HE REGARDED MILITARY SITUATION AS QUITE SERIOUS.

2. MOSCOTTI SAID STATE DEPARTMENT, FOR ITS PART, WAS CONCERNED BY MILITARY SITUATION.
REVOLUTIONARY FORCES WERE APPARENTLY FIGHTING WELL.
EVEN AFTER THEY HAD BEEN DEFEATED MILITARILY AN UNDERGROUND RESISTANCE MOVEMENT COULD CONTINUE AS FORESHADOWED BY AZAHARI AND COULD HAMPER BRITISH POLICIES.
IT STILL SEEMED TOO EARLY, HOWEVER, TO DETERMINE JUST WHAT THE SCOPE OF REVOLUTION WAS AND WHETHER, NOTWITHSTANDING TUNKU'S DENIAL, IT WOULD HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON MALAYSIA.
BRUNEI WAS PERHAPS NOT ESSENTIAL TO MALAYSIA (TUNKU HIMSELF HAD SAID SO); BUT ALREADY PRESS WAS REPORTING REBEL FLAG IN SEBUTI AND BEKENU (SARAWAK).

3. MOSCOTTI SAID DEPARTMENT WAS IMPRESSED THAT A REVOLUTIONARY ARMY OF ABOUT 5000 STRONG COULD HAVE BEEN GOT TOGETHER, TRAINED AND EQUIPPED WITHOUT BEING DETECTED.
BRITISH HAD APPARENTLY FOUND SOME EVIDENCE OF REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT AND MADE SOME ARRESTS LAST WEEK BUT PRESUMABLY HAD NOT RECOGNISED FULL PROPORTIONS OF MOVEMENT.
STATE DEPARTMENT HAD NO EVIDENCE TO GO ON, BUT MANY OFFICERS WERE QUESTIONING WHETHER INDONESIA MIGHT HAVE PROVIDED THE EQUIPMENT AND ADVICE PRESUMABLY NEEDED FOR CREATION OF SUCH A FORCE.
MOSCOTTI SAID THERE HAD BEEN PRESS REPORTS OVER RECENT WEEKS OF NUMBERS OF VILLAGERS MOVING SOUTH UP RIVERS, AND THESE JOURNEYS COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN FOR GUN-RUNNING PURPOSES.

DEPARTMENTAL FILE
FOR ATTENTION D.P.

4. MOSCOTTI AGREED WITH LATTER PART OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF SINGAPORE'S 290 REGARDING INDONESIAN INFLUENCE ON REVOLUTIONARIES AND THEIR USE OF INDONESIAN LANGUAGE AND JARGON., AND HE MENTIONED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT REBEL FLAG WAS RED AND WHITE.

Secy

5. MOSCOTTI DOUBTED WHETHER PHILIPPINES HAD HAD ANY CONNECTION WITH REVOLT BEYOND THEIR HOSPITALITY SHOWN TO AZAHARI.
HE POINTED OUT THAT SO FAR NORTH BORNEO WAS NOT INVOLVED APART FROM SOME SKIRMISHING IN VICINITY OF ITS BORDERS WITH BRUNEI.
ALSO PELAEZ HAD DISSOCIATED PHILIPPINES FROM REVOLT.

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

12A

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.31178.

6. ON THE OTHER HAND AGENCY REPORTS SUGGESTED THAT IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH PELAEZ THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR HAD CONVEYED INDONESIA'S ENDORSEMENT OF REVOLT.

REVOLT HAD ALSO RECEIVED ENDORSEMENT FROM BARISAL SOCIALIST PARTY IN SINGAPORE AND FROM RADIO MOSCOW.

7. MOSCOTTI SAID DEPARTMENT DOUBTED WHETHER AZAHARI WOULD GET TO NEW YORK ON 11TH DECEMBER AS HE HAD ANNOUNCED.

UP TILL LATE 10TH DECEMBER MANILA TIME HE HAD NOT APPLIED FOR A U.S. VISA.

U.S. POSTS HAD BEEN WARNED TO WATCH OUT FOR HIM.

NORMAL PRACTICE IN SUCH CASES WAS THAT UNLESS USA SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THE PERSON'S ATTENDANCE, VISA WOULD NOT BE ISSUED.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M's.

11TH DECEMBER, 1962.

SECRET SECRET SECRET

Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

14

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

SRG

I. 31140

Dated: 10th December, 1962
2336

FROM:

Rec'd: 11th December, 1962
0830

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

293. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt:

Seria was not recaptured. Rebels hold Seria area including the airfield. Have used shell radio in Seria to call for Indonesian and Philippine support. They are reported moving North East to meet the possible movement of British forces approaching from Brunei town. In addition, the rebels appear to either hold or be in some strength at Maura, Seria/Penaga in Brunei and Lembang, Sibuti, Temburong and Lawas over the Sarawak border.

2. Rebels have shot guns, rifles (some captured from police posts) a small number of sub-machine guns captured from police posts and home made weapons.

3. Otherwise little engagement between British troops and the rebels apart from ambushes and sniping. Brunei town is in a state of uneasy quiet with the Sultan being protected at night in the Police Station.

4. One battalion of Gurkhas, less a company, is in Brunei town. The company is at Miri. Additional en route will build up to 5 units, including two Commandos.

5. The airfield at Labuan is being used as a base, forces being shuttled by air from there to Brunei and Miri which slows up deployment. Operations are in an idling phase pending the arrival of additional troops in sufficient strength to attempt to clear the Seria Penaga area.

6. Revolt appears to have taken Supp by surprise. At time of uprising many leaders of Supp were on way to party rallies at Miri and Betong. Ong Kee Hui's broadcast denunciation of rebellion was made without prior consultation with other party leaders, some of whom would probably not agree with him. Interview with Fry on morning of 9th of December Ong expressed disapproval of rebellion but indicated his determination to stick to Supp whatever position it took "to prevent hot heads from taking rash action". Some possibility may remain of Sarawak Communists joining in subversion activity. Barisan Socialism in Singapore has declared support for revolt.

7. Australian citizens known to be in affected areas included Mr. and Mrs. R.H. Morris(resident, Limbang) and approxi-

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FOR ATTENTION D.R. BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

140 A

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

SRG

I. 31140

- 2 -

mately 8 Australianfamilies at Borneo Evangelical Mission at Lawas. No word yet received of their situation.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

11th December, 1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

13

ED.

I.31094.

Dated: 10th December, 1962.
1950.
Rec'd: 10th December, 1962.
2010.

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

394. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei Insurrection.

Following is text of Statement issued last night by Vice-President Pelaez:-

"I reported to the President the situation in Brunei on the basis of information so far available. The Department of Foreign Affairs will continue to follow up developments.

"Regarding the published association of Commissioner Hermenegildo Atienza with Brunei leaders now in Manila, any such association has no official character. I was informed by the President that Mr. Atienza ceased to be Malacanang Legal Adviser when he was recently appointed to the Reparations Commission.

"The aforesaid Brunei leaders have had no official dealings with the Philippine Government. They are in the Philippines reportedly in transit to the United Nations in New York."

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M'S.

11th December, 1962.

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FOR ATTENTION O.P. BRANCH

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INWARD CABLEGRAM

12

ED.

I.31093.

Dated: 10th December, 1962.
1600.
Rec'd: 10th December, 1962.
2100.

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

391. SECRET.

Brunei

Borneo Insurrection.

In conversation with Sadleir this morning, Adams (British Embassy) said that it was clear that the Philippines did not instigate the rebellion, and while doing little to encourage the latter, high local Government officials had known of its imminence and had done nothing to discourage it.

2. Pelaez in a statement (our immediately following telegram) issued immediately after talk with the American Ambassador, denied any official dealing with the rebels. This seems true if "official" is meant in strict sense. However, Adams said that Pelaez had told Pilcher when he called on the President on 8th December to present proposal to effect a solution of the North Borneo problem that the Philippines intended assisting the rebels in putting their case before the United Nations to the extent of lending stenographers and perhaps office space.

3. For your own information only, the British feel that Indonesians have had a hand in staging the revolt.

4. The United States is believed to be considering refusal to visas to Azahari's United Nations delegation.

5. told me last night the rebellion had taken them by surprise and had little information on it. He agreed that some Philippines leaders had known of it in advance.

Lee.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE.
P.M'S.

11th December, 1962.

SECRET

SECRET

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

JW

O.22413

Dated: 10th December, 1962,
1510

TO:

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

945 RESTRICTED. PRIORITY.

Our 944. Brunei Rebellion.

Please cable any Indonesian official or press comments.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

10th December, 1962.

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FOR ATTENTION OF

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

10

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

MEH

I.31163

FROM:

Dated: 10th December, 1962
1550
Rec'd: 11th December, 1962
0830

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA

968. SECRET.

Brunei.

The American Ambassador, Jones, has had a number of reports of dissident activities. It appears that the Ghurkas have now got the insurrection under control at Brunei but that 600 - 700 people took part in it apparently as one phase of a planned uprising in various parts of North Borneo involving 2,000 to 6,000 people most of whom are now in the jungle. Therefore, while the security situation at Brunei headquarters returned to normal it is probable that a considerable problem remains to be solved which has important political implications.

The Americans do not appear to have determined the extent of outside involvement. It is known, however, that there has been some coming and going across the border with Indonesian Borneo, and Jones was specific in saying that the Filipinos had had contact with the rebel forces which have new uniforms and fire-arms. Ø Jones went so far as to speculate on the possibility of this matter being discussed between Sukarno and Macapagal when they met in Manila recently. He feels that unless Malaysia can be brought into being fairly quickly, he will have to review his previous judgement about the Indonesians accepting Malaysia as a fait accompli and not interesting themselves in stirring up trouble in the British Colonies.

Shann.

(Ø Corrups Group)

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

11th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION O.M. SHANN

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

9

AM

TO:

0.22389

Sent: 10th December, 1962
0025

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE...578

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR...536

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA...944

Australian Embassy,
MANILA...370

Australian High Commission,
WELLINGTON...360

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...977

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...2562

Australian High Commission,
LONDON...4433 (For External).

CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Rebellion in Brunei.

At request of Sultan of Brunei, and under British Constitutional responsibilities for internal security, at least two companies of Gurkas have already gone to Labuan for onward movement to Brunei town. More British troops and two naval vessels are following. Commander in Chief, Far East, Singapore has requested use of a R.A.A.F. Hercules aircraft at present in Singapore area.

Acts of rebellion appear to have occurred mainly in Siria and area bordering North Borneo. Leader of Rebellion Azahari has had close association with Indonesia in recent months and Philippines has been allowing him facilities in Manila, prior to his departure for United Nations, New York. However, we assess that Malaya would wish to see Rebellion ended as soon as possible.

Acting Minister and Minister for Defence have authorised use of the R.A.A.F. Hercules on understanding this will be for transport purposes only.

29/6/64 Enquiry to air as to date of first sortie. Advised by DPS Staff (Sqn Ldr Drury) FIRST SORTIE by Hercules on 10th Dec 1962. None before.
Akers 29/6
Secty

MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

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FOR ATTENTION C.P. BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM

8

KA

O.22392

Sent: 10th December, 1962
1200

TO:

Australian Embassy,
WASHINGTON...SAV.350

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK...SAV.138

Rebellion in Brunei

SECRET.

Following is repetition of telegram No. 290 dated 8th December from Singapore

Begins:-

(Take in text of I.31026)

Ends.

E.A.
DEFENCE

10th December, 1962

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
EXTERNAL DEP. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

7

KA

0.22413

Sent: 10th December, 1962
1400

TO:

Australian Embassy,
DJAKARTA.

945. RESTRICTED. PRIORITY.

Our 944. ~~Brunei~~ Brunei rebellion.

Please cable any Indonesian official or press comments.

E.A.
DEFENCE
P.M.'s

10th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION D.F. BRANCH

BRUNEI-1962 BRUNEI-1962 BRUNEI-1962 BRUNEI-1962

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

6

AM

FROM:

I.31048

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

Sent: 9th December, 1962
1517
Recd: 9th December, 1962
2005

393. UNCLASSIFIED.

Brunei

North Borneo.

Following are main points of revolutionary manifest issued to press in Manila yesterday by Azahari:

(a) The Sultan of Brunei had been accepted as constitutional and Parliamentary Head of State.

(b) The new State would fight for its independence if necessary.

(c) Rights of minorities would be protected.

(d) Desire of new State to remain within Commonwealth and apply for United Nations membership.

(e) Desire to promote close economic, military and cultural relations with Philippines and work for President Macapagal's Confederation of Malaya.

(f) Desire to seek assistance from Afro-Asian countries, particularly the Philippines.

(g) Absence of any foreign influence in revolution.

MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

10th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

5

MT

I.31051

FROM:

Dated 9th December, 1962
2225
Rec'd 10th December, 1962
0830

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

291. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Brunei Revolt.

Reuters reports tonight that Seria has been recaptured with five hundred prisoners. Has not yet been confirmed by Phoenix Park. Their earlier information was that company of Gurkhas making for Seria had suffered about 30 casualties There were also reports that rebels in Seria had used captured shell personnel (picking out the Dutch) as hostages. As early estimate is that about 5,000 might be involved in the revolt. They show evidence of organisation and training. The British build up of forces and technicians continues. Forces withdrawn from security duty in Singapore are being replaced by British units from the Federation. The Tengku has offered Malayan units for this purpose.

Jockel.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

10th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia
NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

4

AM

FROM:

I.31047

Australian Embassy,
MANILA.

Sent: 9th December, 1962
1317
Recd: 9th December, 1962
2005

392. UNCLASSIFIED. IMMEDIATE.

1. Brunei
~~2. Malaya~~

Please repeat to New York.

North Borneo.

Azahari, in Manila since Thursday, told press conference yesterday :-

(a) Unitary state of Kalimantan Utara comprising three British territories had been proclaimed by Sultan Saifuddin on 8th December.

(b) Azahari had been appointed Prime Minister, Zanini Hadji Ahmad Economics Minister of the Revolutionary Government.

(c) Azahari had cabled U Thant calling for United Nations intervention and said that he would leave for New York on 11th December to present case at United Nations.

2. Conference was held in hotel suite of Nick Osmena and Atienza, until last week President Macapagal's Legal Adviser, was also present. Osmena simultaneously informed press that he had received assurances from new Borneo Government that claimants proprietary rights would be recognised.

3. According to the press, Foreign Affairs Department is awaiting 'complete facts'. President and Vice-President are conferring on situation this morning.

MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

10th December, 1962

DEPARTMENTAL FILE COPY
FOR ATTENTION D.P. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

3 3

AM

FROM:

I.31052

Australian High Commission,
KUALA LUMPUR.

Sent: 9th December, 1962
1140
Recd: 10th December, 1962
0840

439. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Singapore 27.

From Critchley.

Brunei Revolt.

Federation Cabinet at emergency meeting this morning (December 8th) decided to airlift Malayans back from Brunei. Offer was rejected by Senior Malay civil servant in Brunei Raja Azam (State Security). He reported that with help of British situation could be kept under control, but that if it deteriorated, he would ask for plane to evacuate women and children. Tunku in publicly commending reply has announced "our own forces are on the ready to come when required".

2. Government statement issued this afternoon said riots had nothing to do with Malaysia proposal and that Tunku Abdul Rahman had repeatedly stated that Brunei people were free to choose for themselves "whether they want to join Malaysia or not".

3. Malayans are critical of British and Selkirk in particular. In Singapore last Sunday, Tunku told Selkirk that he was worried about situation in Brunei and about safety of Malayans. Selkirk called in Security Officer to try to convince Tunku that situation was under control and that there was no serious threat foreseeable. That remained British view until yesterday. Dr. Ismail claims privately that British Intelligence was weak because it depended on police who had been heavily infiltrated by rebels.

4. There is some concern that Azahari may make trouble by reaching United Nations before he can be apprehended.

MIN & DEPT E.A.
MIN & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

10th December, 1962

Secty

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FOR ATTENTION C.R. BOANON

CONFIDENTIAL

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

2
2

SECRET

MEH

I.31026

FROM:

Dated: 8th December, 1962
2258
Rec'd: 9th December, 1962
0830

Australian Commission,
SINGAPORE.

290. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Rebellion in Brunei.

The scope of the uprising is quite uncertain. Azahari in Manila has spoken of 20,000 insurgents and virtually proclaimed himself their leader.

2. So far as British know, insurgents are active in Siria and fringes of North Borneo. Over 100 arrests have been made today in Brunei Town. Sarawak field forces have moved to oil town of Miri at request of the Sultan under British constitution responsibilities for internal security, two companies of Ghurkas have gone to Labuan by airlift for onward movement to Brunei Town. More will go tomorrow. Two naval vessels are en route to Brunei Bay.

3. Scope of rebellion is not known. According to Selkirk, evidence of military training was recently discovered in outlying regions with parade grounds and jungle green uniforms. Arrests were made in last few days but extent of rebellion movement was not uncovered. No arms were discovered but rebels will now have some arms from overruning several police stations. Degree of Indonesian involvement is uncertain, but Azahari and members of his central executive have had close association with Indonesia in recent months. Revolutionary movement appears to be using Indonesian language and jargon.

4. Selkirk believes Brunei people support Azahari and his party against the Sultan on initial political and constitutional issues. But whether the support extends to rebellion is another matter. Selkirk has just spent three days in Brunei at request of the Tunku who has heard of rising tension and who is concerned for position of his Malayan officers. Selkirk believes loyalty of police may be doubtful. Magnitude of uprising may range from local Bruni Malay insurrection to an "emergency" type struggle against Malaysia with wider ramifications.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

9th December, 1962

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FOR ATTENTION E.A. BRANCH

National Archives of Australia NAA: A1945, 248/5/6

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

MEH

I.31017

FROM:

Dated: 8th December, 1962
1745

Rec'd: 9th December, 1962
1100

Australian Mission to United Nations,
NEW YORK

Brunei

U.N.1902. CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY.

Washington for information, Ottawa Sav.1153, London Sav.1282.

North Borneo.

United States Mission have information that the man who is leader of the revolution in Brunei is at present in Manila and is coming to the United Nations (possible to the Committee of Seventeen).

He has proclaimed a United States of North Borneo.

Plimsoll.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M's

9th December, 1962

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